

Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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Pupils Seek Aid for Classmate

A Penny for your Thoughts

As visions of Pilgrims and turkeys danced through his head, the HERALD's inquiring photographer asked:

"What does Thanksgiving mean to you?"

Rev. Paul Wenske, 2550 El-dorado, pastor, First Lutheran Church:

"Thanksgiving is a time when I can in a special way examine all the wonderful blessings that have come to me, my loved ones, my community, and my country. Thanksgiving is a time to appreciate all these blessings and to say 'thank you' to God for them. It is being able to go to church and thank God for the freedom to worship Him."



Mrs. Ruth Thompson, 2008 Santa Fe, housewife:

"I was born and raised on a turkey ranch. Thanksgiving on a farm was quite different. That's the time of year when we really give thanks for the harvest had been good. It was a time of being thankful to God for good health and all the other things we enjoyed."

William Kesselman, 4531 Emerald St., Vickers, assembly man:

"Thanksgiving means being thankful. It's a shame that people aren't thankful all year around, rather than having to reserve a special day for it. We should be thankful every day for everything we have."

Darrell Snow, 12, 1005 Sartori Ave., Torrance Elementary School student:

"When I think about how the Pilgrims came here and had hardships and how the Indians helped them learn how to raise crops. I think of how thankful they were and how thankful we should be for what we have now. I'd much rather live now."

Mrs. D. J. Wolff, Gardena, housewife:

"It means in general lots of things to be thankful for—that we are still here and that we live in such a great country as the United States."

Mrs. J. C. Steelman, Gardena, housewife:

"I'm thankful that I did not have to come over on the Mayflower. I'm thankful that I've still alive and have a chance to see and do all the wonderful things available. I'm thankful for everything."

Consider New Bond Election

The stork may require another bond election to keep the Torrance Unified School District eligible for the state building loan program funds, according to School Superintendent J. H. Hull.

An additional 2500 elementary and 1800 high school students will have to be housed, according to a projection of figures for the state loan program, he said. Main villain in this drama is the stork, who has sent birth figures soaring to the point where pre-school children outnumber people moving into new houses.

Uncertain Figures

The problem arises, he reported, because of the uncertainty over increased assessed valuation for the next few years. These figures must be computed, along with costs and the need for additional funds.

The district is eligible for state funds, he said, only as long as it is bonded to capacity. The last \$10,000,000 bond issue voted in June, 1955, is being used as fast as additional bonding capacity becomes available. Only \$3,000,000 of the total remains, half of which will be sold during this school year and half during the next.

Fund Control

The state program requires that the district put any of its own funds into a project before approving any application for state loans.

"Therefore, it appears that the district will lose its eligibility for state funds for school construction during the 1958-59 school years unless additional funds are voted so that it can continue to remain bonded to capacity," Hull said. "Such a program would not increase the bond and interest tax rate, but would tend to keep it more or less stable during the balance of the construction program, after which it would be reduced."



TO AID STUDENT . . . Pupils of Dominick Pulone's sixth grade class at Torrance Elementary School are raising funds to assist a classmate, Joy Metzner, who is confined to County General Hospital with neuromyelitis. Shown here are Paula Smith, Patty Davis, Judy Ness, Teacher Pulone, Jason Castillo, Edwin Friberg, and Sanford Tiedeman. (Herald Photo)

Range Shooting Called Accident

A freak accident at the Torrance Police pistol range resulted in the "shooting" Sunday of a 25-year-old Huntington Park man.

Edward V. Wilson, taken to Harbor General Hospital, is reported in satisfactory condition following surgery to remove a gas check which entered his back and penetrated a kidney.

Police, who at first thought Wilson had been shot by a rifle bullet, called off their search of the area for the person who fired the bullet when doctors removed the gas check.

A Gas Check According to Capt. Ernest Ashton, a gas check is a small brass cup which fits over the end of a high-powered rifle bullet. It keeps the hot gas formed by the burning powder in a rifle case from melting the lead core in the bullet itself.

The gas check evidently was blown off from an unidentified rifleman's bullet, pinnetted 20 feet down the embankment and pierced Wilson's back.

"It's just one of those things that couldn't happen but did," Ashton said.

Sting in Back Wilson suddenly felt a sting in his back and walked up the stairs to the 200-yard range where Rangemaster Noland Robison called an ambulance.

Wilma Paxton, 44, of Gardena, was struck by an auto as she was crossing Torrance Blvd. Driver of the car was Carl Wallace Pakes, 35, of Hawthorne.

Six persons were injured in automobile accidents during the first part of the week, according to local police.

None of the injured were reported to be in serious condition. Katherine Bailey, 26, of 2638 Lofty View, was hit in the head by a half of a brick Monday afternoon. An unidentified driver spun his wheels which caught the brick. The brick sailed through the air, striking the woman and cutting her forehead.

The figures showed that 50 per cent of Torrance high school students take either biology, physics, or chemistry during their careers, compared with only 32 per cent on a national average.

Above Average In elementary algebra, Torrance ranked slightly above the national average, with 68 per cent taking this course, compared with 67 per cent nationally.

Thirty-seven per cent of local students take plane geometry in high school compared with 40 per cent nationally.

Only 17 per cent take intermediate algebra in Torrance, compared with 33 per cent nationally.

Some seven per cent take solid geometry, compared with

No Parade Downtown

Downtown Torrance will not be the scene of a Christmas parade this year, it was announced by President J. H. Paget of the Downtown Retail Merchants' Division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Last years have seen a parade, in conjunction with the large crowds bent on Christmas shopping, creates a tremendous parking and traffic problem, Paget said.

"Santa Land" will again be constructed in El Prado Park and Santa Claus will be seated on a huge float which will be located in various sections of the city each day, Chamber officials said.

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Kids Ask Funds to Aid Girl

Classmates and friends of 11-year-old Joy Metzner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Metzner, 2840 Martha St., and a member of the sixth grade class at Torrance Elementary School have announced formation of a "Joy Metzner Fund" to help costs of the student's hospitalization.

First reported to be the victim of polio, little Joy was later found to be suffering from neuromyelitis. She is confined to an iron lung at Los Angeles County General Hospital.

Mounting costs of maintaining nurses on duty around the clock and to provide iron-lung care for the young student has



HOSPITALIZED . . . Joy Metzner, sixth grader at Torrance Elementary School, is hospitalized with neuromyelitis. Classmates are trying to help her family with expenses. (Photo by Ruth Jacobs)

prompted classmates in Dominick Pulone's sixth grade class to organize the fund drive to help defray costs of the care.

Backed by PTA The actions of the students has received the endorsement of the Torrance Elementary PTA, according to Mrs. R. F. Thompson, president of the unit. She said the PTA would receive the money collected by the students and it would be carried through a bank account set up by the PTA.

In addition to the fund drive being conducted by the students of Pulone's class, students of S. W. Vogel's fifth

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THE SPIRIT OF THANKSGIVING



"Humbly aware that we are a people greatly blessed, both materially and spiritually, let us pray this year not only in the spirit of Thanksgiving but also as supplicants for God's guidance, to the end that we may follow the course of righteousness and be worthy of his favor."
—Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Group to Probe 'Girlie' Mags

A committee to check magazines reaching local dealers and to recommend against those not considered desirable for open display was approved by the city council this week and will be named within the next two weeks.

Members of the committee will be drawn from council appointees, magazine distributors, and dealers, and will consist of 10 persons, according to the outline presented to the city by Mayor Albert Isen.

Overriding a suggestion by Bob Jahn that a committee of persons representing churches, PTA, social, and civic organizations be named to make a study of the situation, Isen's suggestion was given the go-ahead by the council after a session with two leading magazine distributors in the area.

The discussion was marked several times by heated exchanges between members of the council.

George Epstein, general manager and part owner of the Independent Magazine Co., told the council it was the opinion of his company that they did not distribute any lewd or obscene magazines.

"I will agree that some of the magazines we distribute may not be in the same class of good taste as the Ladies Home Journal," he said, "but we do not set ourselves up as censors."

He did say that some magazines which were delivered to them obviously transcended all good taste, and that those were not sent out to the dealers.

"We are certainly willing to cooperate," Epstein told the council, "but we don't feel we should be made to bow to pressures of outside groups."

The distributor said dealers were not required to accept "girlie magazines" as a package deal to get the quality magazines which they handle. The state's "tie-in" law prohibits that, Epstein reported.

He also cited a Red Book Magazine editorial which pointed out that parents had a responsibility to their children to supervise the selection of reading material made available to them, and the responsibility of safeguarding the freedom of a creator—artist or writer—to have his material published.

Each councilman has been asked to name one member of the screening committee by Dec. 10.

Chace Urges Lomita Blvd. Improvement

Funds for the improvement of Lomita Blvd. from Crenshaw to Hawthorne will be included in the 1958-59 county road budget, it was announced yesterday by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

In a letter to City Manager George Stevens, Chace said the funds would be included in the county budget if the city was able to provide the right of way and plans for the project.

Chace said the widening and resurfacing of Lomita Blvd. would conform to the improvements now existing east of Crenshaw Blvd.

E. L. Thurmond Rites Friday

Services will be held at 10 a.m. tomorrow for the Rev. Elves Lewis Thurmond, 46, pastor of the Torrance Missionary Baptist Church here for 18 years. He died Monday of a heart attack, his birthday in Seaside Hospital, Long Beach.

He came to Torrance in 1939 as pastor of the Torrance Missionary Baptist Church, which only recently moved to Harbor City and became the Harbor City Missionary Baptist Church.

A native of Albert, Okla., Rev. Thurmond came to California in 1928.

The rites will be in Halverson-Leavelle Chapel, with the Rev. Luther Cooper of Whittier officiating. Pallbearers will be Art Davis, Ernest Mercert, Ace Caldwell, Owen Action, Hilliard Moore, and Joe Steddam. Honorary pallbearers will be Merle House, James Clark, George Whitmore, and Lester Action.

Survivors include his widow, Etta; children, Joseph and Twila; parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Thurmond, Arvin brothers, Paul, Greensboro, N. C.; Harry, Anchorage, Alaska; and Hilliard, Big Springs, Texas; and half brothers, Elmer and Edgar Polson.

Local Science Enrollment High, but Math is Lower

The number of Torrance students taking laboratory science courses in high school ranks considerably above the national average, but the record is average or below in algebra and geometry courses.

That was the finding of a survey recently made of the students taking these courses at the present time at the three Torrance high schools.

The figures showed that 50 per cent of Torrance high school students take either biology, physics, or chemistry during their careers, compared with only 32 per cent on a national average.

Above Average In elementary algebra, Torrance ranked slightly above the national average, with 68 per cent taking this course, compared with 67 per cent nationally.

Thirty-seven per cent of local students take plane geometry in high school compared with 40 per cent nationally.

Only 17 per cent take intermediate algebra in Torrance, compared with 33 per cent nationally.

Some seven per cent take solid geometry, compared with

a national average of 12 per cent.

Studies Continue Assistant Superintendent Albert N. Posner said that studies of the school work of students are a continual process. He opined that the figures for intermediate algebra and solid geometry might be distorted by the fact that both are 11th and 12th grade courses. The new South High School has only ninth and tenth graders enrolled this year.

Students who enter advanced courses generally rank in the upper part of their class, Posner said, and enrollments are made on the basis of counseling.

High school graduation requirements for all students include two semesters of math of any type and two semesters of science. Students who are taking a pre-college course are required to take one year each of algebra and plane geometry and one year of either biology, chemistry, or physics.

Science Courses Offered at local schools include general science (introduction to all sciences); life science (biology); modern science (practical); advanced biology; chemistry;

physics, and a special honors course in physics for top students.

Math offerings include general math (arithmetic fundamentals and beginning of algebra and geometry); practical math (uses in every-day life); beginning and advanced algebra; trigonometry; and plane and solid geometry.

Science is taught much more extensively in Torrance schools now than it was a few years ago, Posner said. Students today generally have a much better science background than formerly at the time they reached high school, he said.

Much Interest Because of the importance of industrial concerns in this area, Posner felt that there was a much greater interest in science in the Torrance area, as reflected in the greater percentage of students enrolled in those subjects in local schools.