



PROMOTED . . . Promotion of Max E. Webber, M. D., from the rank of major to lieutenant colonel has been announced. Col. Webber is now Assistant Division Surgeon for the 63rd Infantry Division.



MEETS RESIDENTS . . . Bert A. Betts, Democratic candidate for State Treasurer, was in Torrance Saturday and Sunday where he told local voters of his campaign platform. The candidate spoke Sunday to the 17th District Democratic Club here.

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Obituaries

Mrs. Lena Mae Porter
Final rites were conducted Friday for Mrs. Lena Mae Porter, 66, of 2100 Lincoln Ave., who died Wednesday. The Rev. John Taylor officiated at the services in Halverson-Leavell Mortuary and interment will be in Park Lawn Cemetery, Jamestown, Pa. A resident of this area 14 years, Mrs. Porter was born in Pennsylvania. Survivors include her husband, Robert, of the home address; a daughter, Mary Smith of Pennsylvania; two sons, William B. of Torrance and James H. of San Pedro; two brothers, a sister, and five grandchildren.

Gus King
Funeral services for Gus King, pioneer Torrance resident who lived at 1961 Plaza Del Amo, were pending today at Stone and Myers Mortuary. Mr. King, a resident here for nearly 40 years, died yesterday morning. He was formerly employed at Chicago Bridge and Iron before his retirement. He was 80 years old, and leaves no known survivors.

Mrs. Florence Wells
Funeral arrangements are pending today for Mrs. Florence M. Wells, 57, of 413 W. 223rd St. Mrs. Wells died in Gardena Friday. She is survived by her husband, Alton, and two sisters, Mrs. Mae Place of Rhode Island, and Mrs. Margaret Paquin of Massachusetts. Mrs. Wells was born in Massachusetts, and had lived here seven years.

Hugh Blackwell
Masonic services for Hugh Blackwell, 50, of 1317 Greenwood Ave., will be conducted at 11 a.m. tomorrow at the Pierce Bros. Inglewood chapel. Mr. Blackwell, a resident here for nearly 14 years, was a native of El Paso, Tex. Members of the Lomita Lodge, F. & A. M., will conduct the final rites. Mr. Blackwell was a steamfitter, and a member of Steamfitters' Local 250. He is survived by his widow, Charlotte, and six children at home: Rick, Sharon, Terry, Joe, Bill, and Timothy. Two older sons surviving him are Jim of Gardena and Bob of Pasadena. Burial arrangements were being completed late yesterday.



CASH AWARDS . . . Receiving checks from Jesse W. Tapp, chairman of the Bank of America directors, are these four students who won achievement awards in the bank's contest Thursday. Thomas L. Carter (right) of Torrance High School won \$100 in the competition. Other winners are Arthur Lederman, Barbara Jo Neare and Loretta Fota.



YOUNG MUSICIANS . . . Three members of the Torrance Area Youth Band get together to invite area residents to the 12th annual Youth Band Concert Monday night, June 2, in the Civic Auditorium. Bonnie Lewis (left), a South High student, lives at 333 Avenue Atezada; Drummer Ted Bluechel, North High student, who lives at 16915 Arlington Ave., and Rosemarie Erbetta, 2607 Arlington Ave., a Torrance High student.

Assemblyman Knocks System Now In Operation in Municipal Courts

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL, 46th District Assemblyman

Many judges of the Municipal and Superior Courts of Los Angeles County, a large number of lawyers, and probably a majority of the members of the California State Legislature agree with me that the time has come for the legislature to take a constructive part in clearing up the mechanics by which our courts are operated.

The growing problem of court backlogs, which mean months and even years before a case is brought to trial, indicates that the judiciary needs reform and modernization.

The United States government, the state government, the county governments and the cities require some public officials to retire at a given age; but judges are in the position of making their own decision as to their own mental and physical fitness to serve on the bench.

Endurance Contest
In one case, currently on the June 3 ballot, an incumbent judge will be 92 years of age if re-elected and able to serve out his entire term. This becomes an endurance contest between the nice old gentleman and the forces of nature instead of a career devoted to the vigorous, intense application of justice.

In addition to the problem of extreme old age, we find that two judges have been running a marriage-mill, a very profitable business for someone. These two judges are paid for full-time work as judges by taxpayers and yet they have apparently solicited fees for the incredibly large number of couples they have hastily tied together in civil ceremonies.

It is the duty of the California State Legislature to take appropriate action at the next regular session in January, 1959, to correct these and other problems regarding the judiciary. Meanwhile, you, the voters and taxpayers have a duty to perform. I want you to realize that these judges are elected officials who come before you on the ballot periodically.

The fact that a judge is an incumbent does not entitle him or her to your vote if he or she has reached an advanced age, certainly not one more than 80 years of age; and he or she is not entitled to your vote if he or she has been neglecting his regular duties to perform wedding ceremonies for personal gain.

You may remember that in the general session of 1957, I helped get a law enacted that enables any party to a civil

case, whether it is the plaintiff or the defendant, or the lawyer for either, to file a simple affidavit to get rid of the judge assigned to the case and no evidence of prejudice need be introduced.

Rotten Apples
Finally, I believe that most judges are mentally, physically and morally competent, but it only takes a few rotten apples to spoil the barrel.

As to judges up for election the first time, ask them to publicly state what they intend to do about fees for marriage ceremonies. Let them go on record before election, and then watch them after election. The price of liberty and justice in this United States of ours is eternal vigilance.

Report Money
Members of the legislature have to raise money to spend on folders, postage, advertisements, etc.; and we are required by law to report where we got the money and where we spent it. Is it not proper that we make judges not only report such items, but also report their outside income while they are on the bench? If you agree or disagree with me, write to me at Post Office Box 777, Inglewood 5. Please tell me how you want the judiciary reformed.

One judge, frightened when he heard that I intended to publicly discuss this problem and introduce bills to correct it, said to me: "Why not let the judges clean their own house?" The answer is that the judges have had more than 150 years to do this in the United States and more than 50 years in California, but their house will not be cleaned unless the legislature does it for them.

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Political Advertisement

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ASSEMBLYMAN
Vincent
THOMAS

is one of California's leading Democrats. Atty. Gen. Brown once described Vince as "one of the finest legislators in California". Assemblyman Thomas has served the 68th district for 20 years. Vince has lived in the district for 40 years. He is an alumnus of Santa Clara and Loyola universities, where he studied law after being graduated in 1932 with a Ph.D. degree from Santa Clara. He is a devoted family man, and with his wife Mary Di Carlo Thomas, and their two children, Mary Virginia, 6 1/2, and Vincent Jr., 3 1/2, makes his home in San Pedro.

VINCE THOMAS
Has one of the most "Consistently Good" voting records of any representative in the Legislature. He is an advocate of efficiency and economy in Government. He is for improved local and state highways and is regarded as one of the better informed assemblymen on highway construction. He stands for adequate and realistic benefits for the aged and needy; blind and infirm; and crippled children. He is a staunch supporter of Public Parks and Playgrounds; beneficial veterans legislation; strong national and state defense; rapid mass transportation and necessary Water Rights for the development of Southern California.

is endorsed by all segments of our population — Labor and Business; Democrats and Republicans; Veterans and Non-Veterans. The Citizens Committee of Torrance-Lomita, William Everett, chairman; Citizens Committee of Wilmington-Dominguez, Cecil O. Johnson, chairman; Citizens Committee of San Pedro-Harbor City, Louis Kanaster, chairman; Greater Los Angeles CIO Council; Steel Workers, Cannery Workers, AFL State Federation of Labor; AFL Voters League, AFL and CIO Fishermen's Union; United Council of Teamsters; Electrical Workers; Shipyard Workers; ILWU; 68th District Democratic Council; Firefighters, Locomotive Engineers; California Optometric Association; Church groups, Clubs and Business Organizations.

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Scout Trails

Girl Scout Troop 610
Girl Scout Troop 610, sponsored by the Nativity Mother's Club, honored their mothers last Friday evening with a Mother and Daughter Tea held in the Nativity Parish Hall. Preparations for the affair, including all the refreshments, were made by the troop. The evening began with Coralee Nessonson introducing the troop singing two selections entitled "Mother," and "Catch A Falling Star," after which followed a fashion show

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with each of the troop's 37 members participating. Fashions were described by Vicki Podgurski.

Special guest of the evening was Father Thomas Glynn, assistant pastor of Nativity Catholic Church.

Mrs. Leonard Rock, troop leader, has several interesting and entertaining plans for the future, including Girl Scout Day Camp and a Court of Awards.

Brownie Troop 216
Members of Brownie Troop 216 attended a recent showing of "Around the World in 80 Days" and then they attended "This Is Cinerama."

The troop was supervised by Mrs. Mills, the leader, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, and Mrs. Well.

Members of the troop are Kathy Garrison, Terry and Gwen Mills, Cherrel and Jenell Moore, Linda Rodriguez, Carla Edwards, Connie Brennan, Evelyn Wilson, Audrey Well and Mary Jane Snee.

Cub Scout Pack 730-C

Cub Pack 730-C, sponsored by Higgins Brick and Tile Co., is preparing for their annual Pinewood Derby. This event features races between model cars made by the scouts and their dads.

Prizes will be awarded for the best design and the fastest cars. The derby is open to the public and will be held June 8 at Higgins Patio. This year there will be games for everyone and booths, offering hot-dogs, hot coffee, pop, and popcorn.

The May pack meeting was well attended with three dens having 100 per cent attendance.

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