

Banking Firm Buys Civic Auditorium for \$125,000

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Torrance Herald

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FRIENDS RALLY TO AID AILING VET

Plan Benefit For June 27

A benefit dance and cake sale to benefit 32-year-old Harold "Blackie" Francis, of 3035 Winlock Road, who lies paralyzed and in a coma in Seaside Hospital, Long Beach, has been scheduled for Saturday night, June 27, at the American Legion Hall, it was announced here this week.

Francis, who operated a service station at Hawthorne and Newton St. in Waveria for several years, has been hospitalized since he was stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage April 24 near Billings, Mont., while on a trucking haul to that area.

Chamber Manager Dick Fitzgerald, Maybel Banks, Mrs. Anne Kelly, service clubs, businessmen's organizations, and neighbors.

DONATIONS to aid the family may be sent to Mrs. Celia Hopper at 103 Paseo de la Playa, Hollywood Riviera, where it will be deposited in a special account at a community bank.

BLACKIE'S 28-year-old wife, Virginia brought him back to Long Beach and attempted to get him into the Veterans hospital, but all attempts have failed.

Rallying to the aid of the stricken family, whose total resources have been wiped out by the disaster, have been many of the couple's friends and associates. Mrs. Fern Nash, Palos Verdes businesswoman and friend of the couple, is spearheading plans for the June 27 benefit dance at the local Legion hall, 1109 Border Ave.

She has been granted an assist by many others, including Postmaster Clara Conner,

Prizes for the dance benefit June 27 are being collected by Mrs. Conner, and Mrs. Banks is making arrangements for a white elephant sale at the affair. Tickets may be purchased from Mrs. Hopper or at the door.

New School Assignment List Voted

Two Torrance principals and a former Torrance curriculum consultant were appointed as curriculum consultants by the Torrance Board of Education Tuesday night.

Also appointed were two principals and three assistant principals.

Promoted from principal to curriculum consultant were Lloyd Jones, Seaside School, and Dr. Bruce Magner, South High School. Dr. W. Craig Thomas was re-appointed to the position he formerly held. Function of the curriculum consultants is to develop the instruction program and aid principals in planning.

Succeeding Jones as principal of Seaside School will be William A. Zecher. John A. Lucas, vice-principal at South High, will move up to the office of principal vacated by Dr. Magner.

Haig Marshlian, former North High student activities advisor, and Jay Willard Morgan, boys advisor at Torrance High, were named assistant principals at South High School, and Ralph E. Wilson, Carr Elementary School teacher, was named elementary vice-principal. He was not assigned a specific school.

New Office Occupied by AiResearch

The accounting section of AiResearch Mfg. Co., a division of The Garrett Corp., has taken possession of 15,000 sq. ft. of office space in the Dominguez Shopping Area at 4916 W. 190th St. for installation of electronic equipment valued in excess of \$2,000,000. The office is air conditioned, has high density lighting, acoustical tile ceiling and asphalt tile floor, plus an extensive electrical and telephone duct.

AiResearch occupancy is under a long-term lease with the Dominguez Estate Co., owners of the development. Lease negotiations were handled by the John B. Kilroy Co., Industrial Realtors. The project was designed by Quinton Engineers, Ltd., with construction by Coordinated Construction, Inc., specialists in industrial facilities.

New Subscription Service Offered

Readers who prefer guaranteed home delivery of their Torrance HERALD on Thursday only may now subscribe on a split-subscription plan for only 25 cents a month.

The new plan has been made available in response to many requests received from HERALD readers throughout the newspaper's large circulation area.

Subscribers who do not receive their Thursday HERALD by 11 a.m. will be assured of delivery if they call the HERALD circulation office by 3 p.m. Thursday.

Those who prefer the full coverage by the twice-a-week HERALD may still guarantee delivery of the newspaper to their homes for 45 cents a month.

Continued growth in the HERALD's circulation, now guaranteed to be in excess of 36,000 on Thursdays, reflects the favorable response of HERALD readers. Constant alertness toward improvement in every measure of high newspaper standards is the watchword of the HERALD, its management, and its staff.

Make sure you are getting the long established leader in the field—call the circulation department today at FA. 8-4000 and tell them how you want the HERALD. Thursdays only for 25 cents a month, of the full-coverage of Thursday and Sunday for 45 cents a month.

City to Seek New Aud Site

Torrance sold its 23-year-old Civic Auditorium at the corner of El Prado and Cravens Ave. this week for \$125,000, net.

Agreeing to pay the city that sum over and above the escrow and other costs of the transfer was the Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles, represented by its vice president, Bevan Johnson.

Appearing before the council after submitting a written bid for the facility in the amount of \$101,250 in the name of the Pacific-Southwest Realty Co., Johnson agreed to the \$125,000 figure after discussing the matter with the members of the council.

THE PACIFIC-Southwest bid was the only one received in

response to a published call for bids on the facility.

The funds to be received from the transaction were immediately earmarked for an auditorium fund, and City Manager George Stevens was instructed to negotiate with architects to come up with a possible plan for an auditorium on the civic center. Such plans, and the tentative cost schedules, will probably be used to base a figure for a bond election later this year, it was indicated.

JOHNSON TOLD the councilmen that it would probably be 120 days before any work on the auditorium building could be started. In the meantime, the city will continue to use the structure for various activities.

"This is going to be a great shot in the arm for downtown Torrance," Mayor Albert Isen beamed after the negotiations were completed.

"If an organization like Security-First National Bank has faith in downtown Torrance, then I think a lot of other people should take the hint," he added.

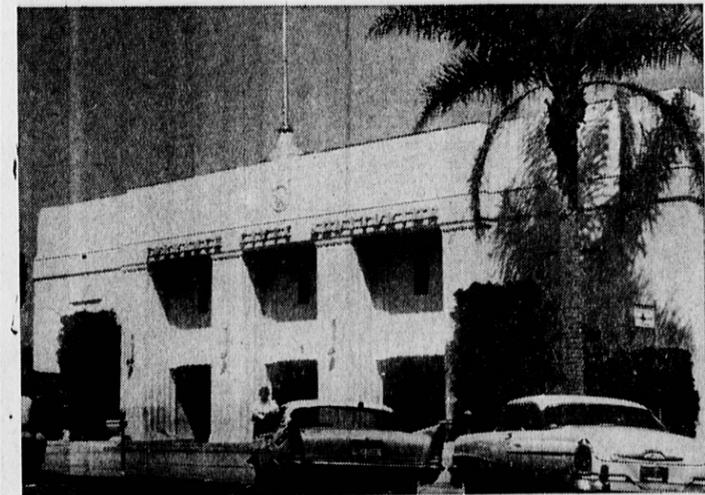
Johnson said the downtown location was one of four the bank had considered in this area.

Atlee To Appear At El Camino

Former British Prime Minister Clement Atlee will headline the speakers scheduled to appear at El Camino College during the 1959-60 lecture series, it was announced today.

Currently on a limited engagement tour, Atlee will make his local appearance March 5, 1960.

Names of other speakers will be announced at a later date.



CHANGES HANDS . . . The city's Civic Auditorium, center of community activities since it was erected in 1936 as a city-federal project, has been sold to a realty firm representing the Security-First National Bank for a net sum of \$125,000. The bank officials said work on the site would probably be started in about 120 days. Mayor Albert Isen predicted the transaction would be "a shot in the arm" for downtown Torrance. (Herald Photo)

To Cost \$165,000

City Employees to Get 5 Per Cent Pay Raise

Pay raises totaling 5 per cent across the board for city employees was approved by the city council here in a special session on the budget Monday evening, but a suggested correction of distorted salary ranges in top echelons of the city staff was rejected.

The new pay schedules will cost the city about \$165,000 the first year, according to Chapman Bone, assistant city manager. The new rates will bring Torrance into line with prevailing wages paid in comparable cities in the Southland in the lower pay ranges. It will still leave the upper pay brackets short of comparable scales, Bone said.

USING THE police department as a guide, he said the patrolmen were about in line with current wages, sergeants were about 6 per cent low, lieutenants 8 per cent low, captains 10 per cent low, and the chief about 12 per cent low.

Some modification of the ranges may be accepted by the council next week, it was indicated.

REJECTING the recommendation for full adjustments were three members of the council Mayor Albert Isen, Nick Draie and Victor Benstead. Voting for the adjustment in the tie vote were Robert Jahn, J. A. Beasley, and George Bradford. Willys Blount was absent.

"The council is really struggling with this budget," Isen commented the next night. "We should hear from a lot of people on this but so far I haven't heard from anyone," he added.

IN OTHER action this week, the council adopted a new oil code designed to strengthen the city's hand in efforts to clean up the oilfield areas; and adopted a lengthy business license ordinance at its first reading.

A request for extended library hours at the city's various branches was referred to City Manager Stevens for study and report on the costs. Stevens said an estimate from the county on the additional costs were expected soon.

A Penny for your Thoughts

"Do you think eating establishments near college campuses should be licensed to serve liquor?"

That was the question the HERALD's inquiring photographer asked several persons in Torrance this week. Their pictures and answers appear below.

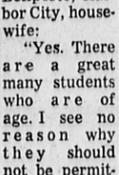
Jane Beach, 4528 Pesadena

Avenue, Long Beach, clerk: "They should not. There are too many minors who might be tempted to order a drink with their meal, and break the law against serving liquor to persons under 21."



Mrs. Charles Easterday, 25203

Bellporte, Harbor City, housewife: "Yes. There are a great many students who are of age. I see no reason why they should not be permitted the opportunity to drink if they choose to."



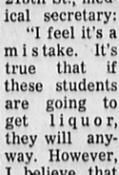
Charles Easterday, 25203

Bellporte, Harbor City, construction worker: "I think it's all right. As long as a student is old enough to drink by law, there shouldn't be anything wrong in having establishments near campus serve him."



Mrs. Ralph J. Davis, 1539

213th St., medical secretary: "I feel it's a mistake. It's true that if these students are going to get liquor, they will anyway. However, I believe that if it is too convenient they are more likely to be tempted."



Richard Montoya, 723 B. Satori,

salesman: "I don't think they should be licensed to sell liquor because college people are too young to drink wisely and drinking might lead to serious trouble."



Pilots To Meet With FAA Men

Federal Aviation Agency communications and air traffic control personnel will meet with pilots from Torrance Airport at the council chambers in Torrance City Hall Monday, July 6, at 7:30 p.m. to review and discuss FAA communications, air traffic and safety procedures.



EARTH MOVERS . . . Mayor Albert Isen, displaying Sir Winston's famous victory symbol, helps President David O'D Kennedy of Kentile, Inc. break ground for the firm's new 18-acre facility here. Top company and city officials were on hand Monday as construction on the million-dollar plant was started. Completion of the buildings is scheduled for early next year, and production is planned for early next summer. (Herald Photo)