

Traffic Accidents Take Heavy Toll Through Area

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Torrance Herald

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FREEWAY DELEGATION 'HOPEFUL'

Strong Pleas for Area Link Made to State

Members of the 46-man delegation of area communities expressed high optimism in Sacramento yesterday afternoon after their appearance before a session of the State Highway Commission on behalf of the San Diego Freeway.

Contacted in Sacramento by the HERALD after yesterday's meeting, Chamber of Commerce Manager Dick Fitzgerald and Councilman Willys Blount said the delegation's presentation earned the compliments of Chairman Robert B. Bradford of the Commission. "We certainly recognize the need for completion of the San Diego Freeway in your area," Bradford told the local group.

COMMISSIONER Robert McClure of Santa Monica emphasized that the Commission was fully aware of the need, and added his thought that "things would be fine."

Leaders of the delegation inferred that the Commission probably had already decided to budget the estimated \$25,000,000 needed for completion of the San Diego Freeway from Jefferson Blvd. to 174th St.

THE BULK of yesterday's presentation was made by Francis T. Fox, general manager, Los Angeles Department of Airports, who called for early completion of the Jefferson-174th St. link of the proposed freeway.

Stressing the congestion which prevails around the huge airport, Fox insisted that it will continue to worsen until the freeway link is completed.

Heading the delegation of Southland leaders was William A. Cameron, Redondo Beach councilman and president of the Inter-City Highways Committee.

ADDING WEIGHT to the request were Assemblyman Charles E. Chapel of the 46th Assembly District, and Supervisor Kenneth Hahn of the 2nd Supervisorial District. Hahn has joined the delegation before to seek the San Diego and Harbor Freeway projects.

Hahn delivered copies of a resolution introduced jointly by him and Supervisor Burton W. Chace calling for construction of the freeway link between Jefferson Blvd. and 174th St.

THE RESOLUTION, which was presented to each member of the Commission, said

freeway link was necessary because:

1. The Los Angeles International airport, through which more than six million persons pass each year, is in the area and suffers from serious traffic congestion which can be relieved only through completion of the freeway.
2. A number of important aircraft, electronic, and defense plants, employing many thousands of persons, are in the area.
3. Existing roads in the area are inadequate to handle the heavy traffic load.
4. There is no mass transit for the area.
5. The Marina yacht harbor now under construction in Playa Del Rey will add to the congestion.

HAHN ALSO pointed out to the commission that the San Diego Freeway is classified as a Federal Interstate and Defense highway and thus qualifies for 90 per cent financing out of federal funds. "Many millions of dollars have already been spent on the San Diego Freeway in Los Angeles County, but it will not

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10 Days Left To Enter Name For \$50 Prize

Only 10 days remain to enter the Back-to-School promotion sponsored by the Downtown Retail Merchants, area shoppers were advised this week.

An entry blank, which must be filled in by an adult, appears again today on Page 2 of the HERALD. Any of the downtown merchants have other blanks for entering the contest.

Prizes in the drawing, which will be made Sept. 10, will be a \$50 merchandise certificate to a boy and a girl to help with the Back-to-School shopping expenses.

For details, see Page 2, or check with any downtown merchant.

One Driver Still Critical After Crash

A 32-year-old Wilmington woman who was severely injured in a traffic collision here on the week end was still listed as critical at Harbor General Hospital yesterday afternoon.

Fern Kelly, of 1138 1/2 Eubank Ave., was rushed to Harbor General after she was extricated from her smashed auto on Pacific Coast Hwy. near the Torrance-Lomita boundary just before midnight on Saturday.

Police were forced to use pry-bars to release the woman from the smashed auto, after it collided with another driven by Clarence H. Fuller, 55, also of Wilmington. Fuller also was injured.

HOSPITALIZED Early Tuesday after his auto crashed into a tree on Sepulveda Blvd. just east of Cabrillo Ave. was Billy Emmitt McGuire, 23, of the U.S. Navy. McGuire was west-bound on Sepulveda when his auto careened off the shoulder of the road, over an embankment, and into the tree.

The Navyman, who received head, chest, and possible back injuries, was unable to explain the event to investigating officers.

A 13-year-old cyclist escaped with minor injuries when her bike and a car collided at Carson St. and Crenshaw Blvd. Monday afternoon.

TAKEN TO A private physician by her mother was Helen Smith, who resides at 2725 Monterey Ave. She had collided with an auto driven by Clare O. Leatherman, 68, of 912 Cota Ave.

A Long Beach man died Saturday night when his car struck the rear end of an auto driven by Juan N. Campos, 40, of 21916 S. Martin St. The dead man was identified as Miguel A. Diaz, 20.

Campo's wife was treated at Harbor General Hospital and released.

HAROLD D. VOKT, 28 of 17103 Atkinson Ave., is reported in fair condition at Bon Air

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MEDIUM-RARE . . . Lysle Albro, school district curriculum consultant (left); Mrs. Carolyn Fullerton, new teacher at Evelyn Carr school; and Dick Herbert, chamber of commerce educational chairman, look over Torrance Park picnic area where Welcome New Teachers steak fry will be held next Thursday afternoon. After questioning Mrs. Fullerton Albro makes note that she would like her steak a little on the rare side. (Herald Photo)

Rev. J. J. Walker Dies; Pastor Here

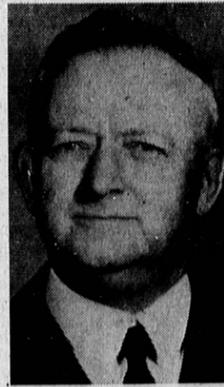
Funeral services for the Rev. James J. Walker, retired Christian minister who had served in that capacity for more than 50 years, were held at the First Christian Church of Torrance yesterday afternoon with the Rev. Bert Bruffett of the Wilmington Christian Church officiating.

The Rev. Mr. Walker, who lived at 5632 Clearside, died Sunday at the age of 71. During his 50-year service as a minister of the Disciples of Christ, Mr. Walker had led in the building of nine Christian churches, and during his period of semi-retirement, had served as ad-interim minister for nine Southern California Christian churches.

During an ad-interim ministry here, the Rev. Mr. Walker helped build the Fellowship halls of the First Christian Church of Torrance and of Wilmington.

He was born in Plantersville, Ala., and attended Atlantic Christian College where he received his degree and was ordained to the Christian ministry.

His first pastorate was in the Eighth Street Christian Church of Greenville, N.C., and from there he went to the Woodland Street Christian Church in Nashville, Tenn., as minister.



REV. JAMES J. WALKER

During his tenure in Nashville, he attended Vanderbilt University and received his master of arts degree.

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Steak Fry To Honor Teachers

Some 240 new staff members of the Torrance Unified School District will be guests of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce Thursday afternoon, Sept. 8. The new teachers and administrators will be honored at the "Welcome New Teachers" steak fry.

The yearly event is sponsored by the Downtown Retail Merchants Division and the Education Committee of the Chamber. It will be at Torrance Park. Serving starts at 4:30 p.m.

OTHERS attending the steak fry include members of the City Council and Board of Education, as well as school principals and chamber officials.

The food will be prepared by the famous Douglas Management Club bar-b-q team, headed by chef Clint Farquhar.

Members of the Retail Merchants Division of the Chamber and area markets are underwriting the affair by furnishing steaks.

DICK HERBERT, education (Continued on Page 2)

A Penny for your Thoughts

"If you could have only one book besides the Bible, what one would you choose and why?"

Answering were:

Mrs. Mae Byron, visitor from San Luis Obispo, housewife: "I don't think I could really settle for just one book. Both my husband and I like to read but can't do much of it now because of our eyes. We like a variety of subjects to read about, not any certain type so it would be next to impossible to say any certain book."

Georgia Ann Potter, 1003 Portola, student in 4th grade, Fern Elementary: "I'd pick an encyclopedia or world book because I can find all sorts of fascinating things in it and find out all kinds of interesting information I didn't know before. I find it fun to just read."

Daisy Bell, 1010 Cravens Ave., practical nurse: "I'd pick a book on home and cooperation in the home . . . It seems there isn't any in the modern home. If parents don't show charity and consideration to each other and their children how can they expect their children to show those qualities to others?"

Mrs. Rosella Pelley, 18915 Patronella, assembler for Thomson Trophy: "I'd choose the encyclopedia because it is the one that I would get the most use of. It contains most of the information that I want to find out so seems to me it'd be the most valuable. At least it's the one that I use most now, outside of the Bible."

Harold Hodson, 2103 West 248th, Lomita, retired: "I think I would pick something like a dictionary, encyclopedia or world almanac because of the information they contain. There are a lot of good books but to narrow it down to just one, I'm sure that I'd pick one of those."

City Trash Crews To Be a Day Late

Trash pickup service will be one day late all next week throughout the city because of the Labor Day holiday Monday, it was reported here yesterday by Wade Peebles, director of public works.

Pickups normally made on Monday will be made on Tuesday, with the Friday pickups being made Saturday, he said.

City Tops Southland In Births

Torrance's biggest industry—babies—is making the city's need for school buildings about one-third greater than that of the "average" Southern California city, school officials predicted this week after taking a long hard look at birth rate figures.

Torrance's birth rate has averaged nearly 32 per 1000 residents during the past 10 years—nearly a third higher than the 24 per 1000 rate credited to the state and to Los Angeles County.

According to figures compiled by the Special Services Department of the district indicate that Torrance's birth rate was the highest in the county during the past decade—at least, among incorporated cities, according to figures compiled by the district.

TORRANCE	31.7
West Covina	29.9
Redondo Beach	28.5
Hawthorne	27.0
Manhattan Beach	27.6
Hermosa Beach	25.7
Covina	25.4
Pomona	24.2
Long Beach	22.1
Los Angeles	21.9
Inglewood	20.9
Santa Monica	19.2
Pasadena	17.7
Beverly Hills (About 6)	

"Torrance has more children than the average city," School Superintendent J. H. Hull points out.

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DRIVER INJURED . . . Fern Kelly, 32, of Wilmington, is lifted from her smashed auto after rescuers were able to free her. Her auto and another collided just before midnight Saturday on Pacific Coast Hwy. east of Crenshaw. She was still listed as critical yesterday afternoon.

By Bank Official

Bright Future Painted for City

Security First National Bank chose Torrance as the site for four new branches for a number of good reasons, Conrad C. Jameson, vice president of the pioneer Southland banking chain told members of the Chamber of Commerce here Tuesday.

Addressing Torrance civic and industrial leaders at the breakfast meeting of the Chamber at the Masonic Lodge, Jameson said Torrance appealed to the bank officials because it was All-America in name and act; alert and aggressive; that the council, Chamber of Commerce, and newspapers had created a favorable business climate; that the city had attained impressive economic stature, and that it was one of

the fastest growing cities in the United States.

"THE 1960 preliminary census figures show Torrance has passed the magical 100,000 population mark," he said. "That figure is four and one-half times the population here 10 years ago, and represents a growth of more than 78,000 residents in the decade, he said.

Only 21 cities in the United States have added more people during that decade," Jameson said.

ONLY TWO Los Angeles County cities—Los Angeles and Long Beach—have added more residents during the decade, and Long Beach beat Torrance by about 300 persons on

a "technical" point, he added. By 1965, he said, Torrance will be the County's third largest city with a population estimated by the city's planning department at 152,000.

THE CITY is now third in home building and building valuation. Retail sales, which have been lagging behind industrial and residential growth, are now catching up fast, he pointed out.

In 1948, Torrance recorded retail sales of \$13 million. This had grown to \$40 million by 1958, \$80 million by 1958, and projected on first quarter sales for 1960, should reach \$150 million this year.

RANKING OF Torrance

among Los Angeles County cities in retail sales has improved during that same time, he said. Where it was 27th in 1948, it rose to 23rd in 1954, 16th in 1958, and will be about 10th in 1960, according to Jameson.

"Torrance is now chasing Inglewood, Burbank, and Compton, and should pass them by the end of the year," he predicted.

JAMES E. SHELTON, president of the banking chain, told the large gathering that "we want to be good citizens of your community."

He sketched the history of the banking chain, then thanked the Chamber and civic lead-

ers for "the cordial welcome that has been given us."

OTHERS introduced at the meeting included James Weigel, who will be manager of the downtown branch at Cravens and El Prado when it is opened later this month, and Gilbert Pando, manager of the recently opened branch at 190th St. and Anza Ave.

Other branches planned by the bank include one at 174th St. and Crenshaw, and one in the Del Amo Shopping Center.

Mayor Albert Isen presented symbolic keys to the city to the bank officials to conclude the program. Joe Doss and Fred Hansen were co-chairman of the event.