

'Shotgun Blast Fells Attendant

Your Complete Community Newspaper—Every Sunday and Thursday

Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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BOGUS MEDIC ROBBS ELDERLY MAN

Asks About His Health, Takes Money

A 71-year-old retired man, reading a magazine on the front porch of his home here, fell victim to one of the meanest of all con tricks.

Joseph Hall, 1503 Crenshaw Blvd., was reading when a man approached the house and identified himself as a doctor from Harbor General Hospital, and expressed an interest in good health.

The "doctor" pulled up the trouser leg of his victim and made some remarks about his legs, and then asked for a drink.

HALL LED the "doctor" into the house and poured him a glass of water, he told police.

The bogus medic apparently looked into other rooms near the kitchen, and then struck Hall, knocking him to the kitchen floor. The doctor took Hall's wallet, which contained \$50 and miscellaneous papers.

AMONG OTHER matters reported to police at week's end was a series of home burglaries in which the biggest haul was an expensive hi-fi set.

John Schneider, 17316 Amie Ave., said someone entered his home by forcing open a window and took a hi-fi, complete with AM-FM tuner, amplifier, and speaker system complete with woofers and tweeters.

REED WILSON, 416 Via San Sebastian, said someone pried open a glass door to gain entrance and ransacked his home. Apparently nothing was taken. The raid took place while Wilson was out shopping.

Clair Young, 17009 Casimir Ave., said someone pried open a bathroom window Friday night while he was out bowling, and went through his house. A piggy bank which had been placed on a bedroom dressing table was the only loss ascertained. It contained about \$5.50.

Elston Hagan, 233 Via Pasqual, said someone pried open a sliding glass door to his home Friday night and ransacked the place. Apparently nothing was taken. Hagan told police.

Median Barriers Due Soon on Harbor Freeway

In response to an urgent request from Supervisor Kenneth Hahn for the State Highway Department to install median barriers down the center of the Harbor Freeway, Edward T. Telford, assistant state highway engineer, this week reported that plans for the installation are nearing completion and that it is expected that bids for this work will be advertised "early" in 1961.

In his letter to Telford, Hahn pointed out that approximately 6,000,000 persons a month use the Harbor Freeway (or 200,000 each 24 hours) and that "this freeway should have a high priority" for the installation of the safety barriers.

"EVERY DAY that I use the Harbor Freeway, I realize the extreme need of having a safety barrier along the freeway median," Supervisor Hahn wrote.

Purpose of the median barrier is to prevent cars jumping across the center section and crashing head-on into oncoming traffic. Several of the most serious accidents on the freeway have been caused by the lack of a median barrier.

To Seek Complaint

A felony complaint will be sought against Rodney E. Streiff, 25, of Wilmington as a result of a restaurant brawl earlier this week in which a Manhattan Beach man was slashed.

Victim Hides After Taking Shot in Side

The search for a gun-crazy bandit who fled a Torrance service station early Friday after sending a blast from a shotgun into an attendant in a robbery try continued here as police checked out slim leads on the case.

Recovering in Harbor General Hospital is Charles Sutton, 63, who lost a struggle with the bandit over possession of the sawed-off shotgun and took the blast above the hip before running around a building and hiding from the gunman, at 21701 S. Western Ave.

Judges Feted At Luncheon

Civic leaders of Torrance and the beach cities paid tribute to newly appointed Superior Judge John A. Shidler and his successor, Judge William E. MacFaden at a luncheon at the Plush Horse Friday sponsored by the South Bay Bar Assn.

Supreme Court Justice Marshall F. McComb, who earlier had ennobled Judge MacFaden, was among local and state officials attending the luncheon.

Foster Day, president of the Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce, was master of ceremonies. Resolutions to the two jurists were presented on behalf of the city council of Torrance by Mayor Albert Isen and Councilman Nick Drale.

Atty. Boris S. Woolley and James Hall were co-chairmen of the event.

School Group To Meet Here

At their regular association meeting to be held a Columbia School Thursday, South Bay Educational Office Employees will learn more about the problems and needs of handicapped children.

School Principal Lester I. Foster will present the "Columbia Story," a story of children no longer forgotten. Columbia School is unique in that it is the only school plant in the South Bay Area designed expressly for the training of severely mentally retarded children. Following the lecture, members of the association will be given a tour of the school buildings under the guidance of Foster.

AFTER questioning Sutton from his hospital bed, police said the attendant was on duty about 1 a.m. Friday when the bandit drove in and put gas in his auto.

After checking the oil and being told he didn't need any, the gunman asked about purchasing some oil, anyway, and followed the attendant to a shed where oil was stored.

ON REACHING the shed, the victim found the young suspect had followed him. He pulled the shotgun from beneath his jacket and said:

"Give me your money or I'll kill you."

Sutton knocked the gun from the bandit's hands, and the two struggled.

The bandit recovered the gun, stepped back a pace and fired, Sutton said.

THE VICTIM escaped the full blast, but was wounded severely above the right hip.

The bandit jumped into his car and fled west on Carson St., police were told.

A PASSERBY, Neil R. Ross, of 22516 S. Normandie Ave., gave chase as the bandit fled, but lost him about a mile away from the scene of the shooting.

The bandit was described as short and stocky. He was about 30, police were told.

Egan at Conclave

Jack Egan, manager of Torrance Municipal Airport, is attending a meeting of California Airport Executives in Fresno. Egan is secretary-treasurer of the organization.



'WAY BACK WHEN . . . Mrs. Arnold Vetter, who resided on a ranch near where Carson and Cabrillo now intersect, marveled at the changes in the intervening 50 years during a visit to the city this week. Here she goes over aerial photos with George Powell (left) planning director for city, and Walter Nollac, father of the city engineer, who worked on ranch during summer vacations as a lad. (Herald Photo)

Float Fund Donations Lagging, Chamber Says

Donations continue to "trickle in" for Torrance's floral entry in the Annual Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, to be held this year on Monday, January 2.

Chairman George A. Bradford said that even though there are still close to six weeks remaining before the Classic, donations are arriving at the sponsoring Torrance Chamber of Commerce office at a much slower pace than in previous years.

Latest contributors include: Rome Cable Corp.; Flair for Hair Styles; Nick Krynen; Knolls Park, Inc.; Torrance Pharmacy; Pacific Plaza Cleaners; George T. Taniguchi; Hugh H. Chapman; Credit Bureau of South Bay District; Columbia Van Lines; South Bay Obedience Club; Hybern, Inc.; Slim Kidwell Aviation; Frederick D. Henry; Frank's Liquors; Marilyn J. Linscott;

E. H. Scherer; W. E. Gilliard; Golden West Wholesale Meats; South Torrance Lions Club; Frank's Snack Bar; H. Donald Smith; Anchor Products; Calif. Water Service; Magnavox Research Labs; Clarence W.

Johnson; Chief Benner; M. E. Webber, M. D.; Boris Woolley, Attorney; Union Carbide; Dominguez Water Co.; Joseph Maxim; Arts and Crafts Club; Bettie Thomas Studio; H. M. West; Del Amo Estate Co.; Stanley Remelmeier; Larry Reed Sports Cars; Palos Verdes Begonia Farm; Ruth Davis Cosmetics; and Candle Lite Gown Shoppe.

Shoestring Meeting Set

Captain Karl Lee, Commanding Officer of the Harbor Division Police, will discuss police problems "In the Shoestring Strip Area," at the regular meeting of the Advisory Committee at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. It was announced today by Mrs. James Fryback, chairman.

Progress reports on the 206th and Harvard Improvement District Project, and on several other pending jobs will be made by Councilman John S. Gibson, who also is expected to relay experiences encountered on his recent month-long trade visit to Europe.

Plans for the annual dinner meeting of all advisory committees of the 15th District will be discussed. This session will replace the regular meeting for the month of January, Mrs. Fryback said.

All meetings of the Shoestring Strip Group are opened to the public. Refreshments will be served by the Hospitality Committee.

Johnston; Chief Benner; M. E. Webber, M. D.; Boris Woolley, Attorney; Union Carbide; Dominguez Water Co.; Joseph Maxim; Arts and Crafts Club; Bettie Thomas Studio; H. M. West; Del Amo Estate Co.; Stanley Remelmeier; Larry Reed Sports Cars; Palos Verdes Begonia Farm; Ruth Davis Cosmetics; and Candle Lite Gown Shoppe.

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Plane Prop Injures Man

A Los Angeles man who walked into the whirling propeller of an airplane at Torrance Municipal Airport Thursday was injured seriously, police report.

Taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital after the accident was Charles O'Conner, 60, who suffered a fractured right arm and severe cuts.

He was helping a friend park a plane at the airport, police said.

A Penny for your Thoughts

Five persons in the Torrance area were asked to give their opinions on the following question.

"Noting the anniversary of Pearl Harbor next Wednesday, Dec. 7, what do you think would strengthen our Civil Defense procedures?"

Mrs. Maude Jepsen, 1458 W. 218th.

"We senior citizens would like to have it better explained to us. Not even knowing where the shelters are—what could we do? I think having a speaker from the Civilian Defense organization to inform different groups would be a very good idea."

Mrs. Marjorie Humiston, 3412 Palos Verdes Dr., Regional Children's Librarian, L.A. County.

"No one wants to think about it. Everyone thinks that it can't happen here. It should be stressed through the PTA groups and children should be taught about it. If people are interested, the government will take steps to strengthen our defenses."

Bert Byers, Park Hotel, retired.

"The United States is really in a predicament—more than is generally thought. The Civilian Defense procedures should really be strengthened. More people should know what this organization is doing."

Yosh Motoyama, 15369 Van Ness, Gardena, market produce manager.

"I think a stronger civil defense is necessary to prevent another Pearl Harbor attack. I think we should conscript people for this important part of our preparedness."

John Schmidt, 906 Irene, Redondo Beach, market clerk.

"I would like to see more interest taken by the general public in building up a stronger Civil Defense program. I think it is as much part of our defense as any branch of our armed forces."

Driver Injured

Pat McManus, 51, of 3501 W. 228th St. was admitted to Little Company of Mary Hospital Friday afternoon after a traffic accident at Hawthorne Ave. and 230th St. Driver of the second car was Edgar A. Knight, 30, of Inglewood.



BAZAAR PLANS . . . Women members of the Torrance Adult Club display some of the hand-made gifts to be offered from 10 a. m. until 2 p. m. Tuesday at the Adult Center. The event is the group's annual Christmas bazaar and luncheon and the public is invited. Left to right here are Maude Jepsen, Cora Scheifer, Allice Ross, Cordie White, and Fannie Tarplay.



shopping weeks left
USE CHRISTMAS SEALS
FIGHT TB



BUSY BROWNIES . . . Troop 1995, sponsored by Halldale, P.T.A., is pictured planting wild flowers in vacant lot at 208th and Halldale. Sponsors are Mmes. George Finnell, Robert Olson, and Robert Goldstone. More than 2000 packages of seeds, made available through District No. 2 of California Garden Clubs, Inc., have been distributed in area.