

# Torrance Herald

KING WILLIAMS - GLENN W. PFEIL  
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REID L. BUNDY - Managing Editor

Your Right to Know  
Is the Key to All Your Liberties

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 1961

## Kennedy Impressive

President John F. Kennedy seems to have taken hold of his great responsibilities in a manner that has won non-partisan praise. His appointments have run into little opposition in the Senate and his first acts seem to indicate he will bring purposeful vigor to the office.

Noteworthy was his precedent-setting press conference televised live and watched by millions. The new auditorium accommodated the newsmen in almost superfluous number and lent itself well to the occasion. The president seemed completely at ease and gave the conference some dessert as a prologue when he read a statement announcing the release of the two pilots held captive for so many months by the Russians. He seemed to be well grounded in all the subjects discussed and was astute in avoiding commitments that might later become embarrassing, such as exercising his prerogative of withholding certain information he considered necessary for the safety of the nation.

Naturally, it is too early to pass judgement but our new president's actions in his first days in office may be said to be promising, reassuring, and hopeful.

## Out of the Past

From the Files of the HERALD

The HERALD'S files of 20 years ago are full of names still familiar in the life of Torrance. Vincent Thomas, still representative of most Torrance residents in the Assembly at Sacramento, was home from the Capital after introducing a number of bills in the opening days of the 1941 session. Among his proposals was one preventing sports fishermen from marketing their catches and another to provide health insurance for industrial employes. He reported an unusually active session with more than 1400 bills tossed into the hopper during the first days.

Glenn Jain, acting city engineer, reported the contractor was in the last stretch of the Vista Highlands sewer project. The project included the laying of 18,000 feet of laterals in the area south of Carson street along Fern, Greenwood, Date, Elm and Hickory. The project cost the city only \$5000 more than \$170,000 being supplied by

PWA. There was no property assessment, each householder being charged only \$25 for the sewer connection from his own premises.

In an effort to learn the owner of the oldest Bible in Torrance, the HERALD learned that Mr. and Mrs. Chris Jones had a Welsh printing of 1200 pages that was 136 years old in 1941.

"Possessors of the best seller of all history are invited to bring their ancient tomes to succeed to the honor of owning the oldest Bible," the editor wrote.

A committee to work for the establishment of Harbor Junior College to serve surrounding communities, including Torrance, met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Huppke.

Pictured was a life-sized bronze statue of Seabiscuit to be placed at Santa Anita Park in a public ceremony scheduled for Feb. 6th.

## Little Chats

### On Public Notice

(Copyright 1960)

By JAMES E. POLLARD

**OPEN HEARINGS (No 9 in a Series)**  
It is basic to the American way of doing things to require most public business to be done in the open. Some things such as crime detection and certain aspects of national security require degrees of secrecy. But in the main the principle of "openness" is a good and long established practice.

One means of insuring that the public is kept informed is to provide for open hearings. This is so that members of the public may attend such hearings if they wish. In any event, such hearings on public matters are often open to the press and the radio-TV so that the public can be kept informed of developments through these media.

The policy of open hearings on matters that concern the public is closely related in principle to the equally important one of public notice. Such notices affect the community at large, various corporate or other interests and, especially, individuals. These notices are a means of safeguarding various rights and to be put on notice is one way of protecting those rights.

The bona fide newspaper of general circulation is a long established medium for such notices as provided by law or by official designation. This is only one of the many public services provided by the newspaper. In principle, the publication of such notices is also an important part of the American way.

## From Employee's Door—



## Legislature Certain to Get New Firearms Laws

By MIKE ABRAMSON

One controversy virtually certain to emanate from the 1961 session of the California Legislature will be a series of proposed bills to control the ownership and use of firearms.

The controversy is certain because there hasn't been a session in recent years which has failed to generate a proposal to restrict the use and ownership of guns in the state.

There are many interests which sponsor anti-firearms legislation, usually for the stated purpose of aiding law enforcement personnel in apprehending and convicting law violators. Sponsors also cite their bills as a means of reducing gun accidents through tight controls over private firearms.

Fortunately for the several million California owners of firearms — hunters, competitive shooters, gun collectors and individuals with particular problems of self-protection — very little restriction of the constitutional right of the American people "to keep and bear arms" has been imposed in recent years.

Restrictive legislation is almost always proposed in the Legislature, however. The 1958 session saw several such bills, including the perennial proposal to register all firearms and require police permits for ownership, but all failed of enactment.

Principal stumbling block to passage is the militant effort in behalf of their sport by the California shooters represented by the National Rifle Assn. and the California Rifle and Pistol Assn. and the

hunters represented by the California Wildlife Federation.

Such restrictive legislation, the shooters say, is pointed in the wrong direction. It disarms the honest law-abiding citizen while it fails completely to disarm the criminal. Proper legislation should not curtail the legitimate use of firearms, they hold, but should impose strong penalties, including prison terms, for their illegal use by criminals.

In scrutinizing the merits of a proposed gun law, the National Rifle Assn. asks the legislators — and the public

— to apply five tests:

1. Is it an enforceable law?
2. For what purpose is the law intended, and will it actually achieve that purpose?
3. Could the law be used by an unscrupulous person or party to extend or perpetuate his own power?
4. Is the law really necessary, or does it merely contribute to a network of technical restrictions which can trip the conscientious gun owner into unintentional violation?
5. Is the law an attempt to accomplish by prohibition what can be accomplished only by education and training?



KIWANIS CLUB INSTALLS . . . T. G. "Tommy" Wilkes (left) newly installed president of the Torrance Kiwanis club, helps Lt. Gov. R. T. "Bob" Yea, installing officer (center) hand plaque to W. R. "Ray" Noel, outgoing president, during installation ceremonies for the club at the Palos Verdes Golf Club. Other officers installed included H. G. Stephens, first vice president; Donald J. Hitchcock, second vice president; B. I. "Johnny" Johnson, secretary, and Dean L. Sears, treasurer.



STAFF INSTALLS . . . Henry W. Creeger (center), president of the Torrance Memorial Hospital board of directors, was honored guest as John Nursall, M.D. (left), was installed as chief of the medical staff of the hospital to succeed George Peeke, M.D., in ceremonies at the Palos Verdes Country Club last week. Dr. Nursall is a Torrance ophthalmologist. (Photo Arts Photo)



"If children didn't ask questions, how could they find out how we know so little?" — Herbert P. Prochnow.

"Some experts believe that if all the polls taken were laid end to end they would still lie." — Bert Kruse.

"The trouble with politicians is that they have more solutions than we have problems." — Rep Archer Nelson.

"Some of our foreign neighbors complain about our system of free enterprise while all the time they have their hands out for the fruits of the same system." — John C. Hazen.

"College basketball coaches are all interested in higher education, and the closer they come to seven feet the better they like it." — Finn B. Erikson.

### STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN

Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars

To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

ARIES	1. B	9.34	46-60-75
Taurus	1	510-24	31-42-74
GEMINI	11	14-29-40	48-64-72
CANCER	17	39-49-56	66-76-82-90
LEO	2	7-14-20	52-59-86
VIRGO	2	7-14-20	25-63-65

LIBRA

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