

Chief Hospitalized, Gets New Subpoena

Your Complete Community Newspaper
Every Sunday and Thursday

Torrance Herald

Automation:
Boon or Disaster?
(See Dorais, Page 4)

Serving Greater Torrance — Capital City of the Great Southwest

50th Year — No. 90



OFFICE AND PLANT, 1619 GRAMERCY AVE. — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1963

10c Per Copy 20 PAGES

Plane Crashes Near Torrance Airport; Four Perish in Flames

A Penny for your Thoughts

While taking pictures and interviewing teachers on the Spanish program in Torrance elementary schools, our reporter asked some of the eighth-graders in the program to evaluate it.

George Peavy, 5109 Paseo del Pavo:

"I feel this Spanish program is much better than other kinds used, where all you do is repeat once or twice what the teacher is saying. This program has taught me a lot about Spanish and I hope to continue taking Spanish."

Henry Sorenson, 4518 Paseo de las Tortugas:

"I enjoy Spanish very much. My teacher makes Spanish fun to learn. I am surprised that I have learned so much. I would like to continue taking Spanish in high school. It will help me in the future. Since I have the opportunity, I do not intend to pass it up."

Randy Kimose, 5102 Paseo de Pablo:

"I enjoy Spanish very much. It's really fun if you try hard to learn. We need Spanish, I think, because we live close to Mexico. In this neighborhood we especially need it because of the street names. I believe I will go on taking Spanish when I start high school next year."

Janice Arnett, 4321 Paseo de las Tortugas:

"The Spanish program at Riviera School is very good. It not only teaches you Spanish but it prepares you for future study of a foreign language. I am planning to take French in high school, but I am learning new skills such as memorizing, that I will use. Visual aids are more effective than any other method."

Peggy Ann Gohl, 5607 Via del Collado:

"I have taken Spanish twice, in the fifth and sixth grades. Never before was Spanish more interesting to me. I have forgotten most of the Spanish I've learned in the earlier grades, but now it is coming back to me. This will prepare me for high school since I want to study more of the Spanish language."

Chief Called To Sessions Wednesday

Police Chief Percy G. Bennett, hospitalized a short time before he was scheduled to appear before high officials of the attorney general's office and the district attorney, has been given a new hearing date—next Wednesday.

Restore R-3 Zoning, Ask Homeowners

A group of Torrance property owners who bought land zoned R-3 in 1960 and found out last spring that it had somehow been rezoned R-1 will lodge a complaint again with the City Council at its Tuesday evening meeting, one of the residents told The HERALD yesterday.

William E. Foster, who lives at 2572 W. 230th St., said residents in the 21 homes along the south side of 230th Street west of Crenshaw did not know their large homesites had been rezoned until one of the property owners sought a building permit last spring.

SINCE THAT TIME, efforts to get the zoning cleared have proved frustrating, Foster said. Scheduled for consideration before the Planning Commission last Wednesday night, it was postponed when the meeting had progressed to 12:45 a.m., according to Foster.

Foster, openly critical of the Planning Commission, said he would ask the City Council to urge some action on the zoning problem.

ALSO TO COME before the council at Tuesday's meeting is a change of zone in the WALTERIA area. Submitted by Dan Butcher, the petition asks for a change of zone from A-1 to C-2 on the property located at Newton Street and Hawthorne Avenue.

A previous hearing on the petition had been postponed at the request of the Walteria Civic Organization which opposes the zone change.

Area Schools Will Observe Veterans Day

Students in all area schools will get an extra day this weekend.

All schools in the Torrance district, along with schools of the Los Angeles City School System and El Camino will observe Veteran's Day.

No classes will meet in day or evening divisions at El Camino College. All adult education classes also will be dismissed.

In The Herald Today

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THE NEW DATE was set after City Manager Wade Peebles notified the attorney general's office that Bennett had been admitted to Torrance Memorial Hospital.

Peebles, who was notified of the situation when he arrived at his office Friday morning, denied that he had placed a news clamp on Bennett after the veteran police officer indicated to television newsmen that Peebles had put a press gag on him.

PEEBLES SAID he called the attorney general's office as soon as he had heard of Bennett's hospitalization.

Bennett's Friday date to talk with the investigators in Los Angeles was an outgrowth of an investigation into the police department touched off last summer when three Torrance officers were arrested for felonies during a 15-day period. The investigation, which later led to a raid on Torrance bars and restaurants, touched off a running battle between city officials and members of the district attorney's staff.

Attorney General Stanley Mosk, represented in the case by Goertzen, entered the case after both sides in the dispute asked for his assistance.

Breakfast Set For YMCA Good Neighbor Award

Announcement of the annual YMCA "Good Neighbor" award will be made at a breakfast at the YMCA center next Saturday at 10 a.m., according to Dr. Rollin R. Smith, chairman of the affair.

Letters of nomination should be addressed to Dr. Smith, Torrance YMCA, 2080 Washington Ave.

Smith reminded residents that the winner of the annual citation is usually someone who "has been a good samaritan without fanfare and limelight."

Last year's winner was W. A. "Dick" Felker, 1527 Post Ave., who was cited for his years of service to the Red Cross and to the young people of Torrance.



SPANISH LESSON . . . Robert Clairmont, eighth grade teacher at Riviera Elementary School, begins a new Spanish lesson with members of his class at one of the listening posts, Clairmont, who majored in languages in college, teaches several classes at Riviera School. Here, he gives the class instructions on the use of the record player and earphones. Students will listen to spoken Spanish and eventually learn to speak themselves. Many of the students, now taking their second year of Spanish, have already become quite proficient. (Herald Photo)

Pilot Program

Spanish Taught in Elementary Grades

(American Education Week begins today. President Kennedy has issued proclamation marking the annual tribute to America's public schools. The following article on the Spanish Language program in the Torrance Schools is The HERALD'S salute to American Education Week.)

By JERRY REYNOLDS
Herald Staff Writer

Habla espanol? Si, answer some of the Torrance school district's seventh and eighth graders.

New attention has been focused on the study of languages in recent years, much of it due to the launching of Russia's Sputnik 1 in 1957. Torrance schools have developed a pilot program in the

instruction of Spanish which has attracted attention from many school districts.

Begun as a pilot program at Casimir Elementary School four years ago, the Spanish language program now involves four other elementary schools and will be expanded gradually to take in all schools in the district. Passed at the last session of the State Legislature, a new law requires school districts to begin instruction in some language at the sixth grade level by September, 1965.

Torrance's Pilot Program

TORRANCE'S pilot program was developed long before the state law came onto the scene. At Casimir Elementary, fifth graders were first given Spanish instruction in 1960, and the classes have followed through. Spanish is still being taught to fifth graders, and eight grade classes, now in their fourth year of Spanish, are becoming very proficient.

Casimir is equipped with a language laboratory much the same as the language laboratories in the district's four

high schools. At other schools participating in the pilot program, listening posts are employed. These posts are built around a tape recorder or record player, with students listening in groups to the proper pronunciation of Spanish.

Torrance teachers are using (Continued on Page 2)

Twin-Engine Craft Snaps Power Lines

Four persons died amid the flames of their twin-engine aircraft about 9:15 Friday evening after the engines failed during a takeoff from Torrance Municipal Airport.

The plane sheered off a power pole and snapped high voltage lines before coming to a stop against the earthen bank of a crude oil reservoir near 247th Street and Crenshaw Boulevard.

Police reports listed the dead as Charles Orrin Ransford, 25, of Los Angeles; Harold Charles Vogler, 41, of Manhattan Beach; and a "John Doe" and "Jane Doe." Coroner's officials were still trying to identify the remaining two bodies yesterday.

THE CRASH occurred shortly after the plane lifted off the runway at the airport. The engines apparently failed and the pilot attempted to bank to the left in an effort to get back to the runway.

The bodies were badly burned in the fire which followed the crash. Torrance firemen battled flames from a magnesium fire for nearly an hour after the plane came to rest against the reservoir bank.

A night guard at the HiShear Corp., Clarence Hayes, 51, told police he saw the plane crash. Hayes told police the plane came down nose first, and snapped the power pole. He said he saw a big flash, but was not sure if the flames came from the power lines or the plane.

ANOTHER witness, James W. Degenhart, 19, of Redondo Beach, said he was in a plane making a landing at the airport when the crash occurred. Degenhart said he heard the aircraft give a "Navion Range-master clearance for a take-off," but did not see the crash.

Some areas in south Torrance were blacked out after the 16,000-volt power lines were broken.

The aircraft was registered in Texas.

Hecklers Fined, on Probation

Three John Birch Society members have been fined \$225 each and placed on probation for two years for disturbing the peace and disrupting an Aug. 17 civil rights forum at Torrance High School.

All three entered guilty pleas to charges filed by City Prosecutor Charles F. Catterlin, who also served as moderator for the forum.

James Rea, 4120 Silverleaf Drive, Rolling Hills Estates; Robert Cadle, 21605 Ocean Ave.; and Jacob M. Sacks, Palos Verdes Estates, were fined \$225 each, given a 10-day suspended sentence, and placed on probation for two years by Judge William B. Keene.

Judge Keene branded the actions of the three as "adult delinquency" and said their conduct at the Aug. 17 forum "violates every basic precept of freedom of speech."

The meeting, sponsored by the Centinela Bay Human Relations Committee to discuss race problems in the South Bay, was all but adjourned after hecklers halted the meeting with a chorus of boos, clapping, foot-stomping, and yelling.

All three defendants admitted to being leaders of the Birch Society in the Harbor area, but denied that the break up of the forum was the work of the society.



SOUTH HIGH ROYALTY . . . Three homecoming princesses admire the crown of queen Sandy Cook, second from left. The queen was named Friday night at a football game between South and Palos Verdes High School. Admiring the crown are, left to right, Cynthia Hanny, Sandi Davis and Nancy Kimbell. The queen's sister, Diana, was homecoming queen at Torrance High School in 1958. (Herald Photo)

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