

**DANGER**  
DEEP WATER KEEP OUT  
3 BOYS LOST LIVES HERE  
JULY 16, 1951  
Keystone-Avalon Chamber of Commerce

**A MONUMENT . . .** Ben Cluff, local dairyman and member of the Keystone-Avalon Chamber of Commerce, finishes the job of placing a sign in front of a Keystone slough, in which three boys were drowned last week. Cluff said that similar signs will be placed at other path entrances around the slough by the Chamber as well as at other sloughs in the area. Petitions are now being circulated by parents in the Keystone area asking the county to bring about an immediate solution to the problem. Supervisor Raymond V. Darby is presently pushing a survey by the county flood control district that has as its aim the draining or filling of the numerous swamp areas, it was reported.  
—Torrance Press photo.

## Riviera Bus Line 'Sabotage' Seen

That little or no attempt on the part of the city to make the Hollywood Riviera line of the Torrance Municipal Bus System a successful one, was charged this week by Hollywood Riviera residents. "Sabotage" was the cry of the group.

Service of the line, discontinued several months ago on a motion by Councilman Harvey Spelman, was resumed July 2. Bus Superintendent Marshall Chamberlain reported that while no actual survey on the monetary progress of the line has as yet been checked, he does not believe that the people, with the exception of children attending summer sessions at the Seaside School, are using the bus any more than they were before its discontinuance.

When confronted with this statement, Frank Brennan, chairman of the Hollywood Riviera group, pointed out that the new schedule of the bus line, which was not that suggested by the group, has not been publicized. "When people don't know when the bus is run or how often it runs, how do you expect them to ride it?"

He added that there is no early morning bus to take the workers of the area into downtown Torrance or connect them with a Los Angeles bus, no late afternoon bus to bring workers home or evening bus for the high school children who wish to attend school activities. "If Torrance wants to abet juvenile delinquency by forcing high school students to hitch hike their way home from school, well it's up to them."

Present schedule of the Hollywood Riviera line is as follows:

Leaves Torrance: 7:30, 9:20, and 10:40 a.m., 12:40, 3:40, 4:45 p.m.

Leaves Hollywood Riviera: 8:00, 9:45, and 11:10 a.m.; 1:15, 4:15, and 5:25 p.m.

Brennan said that the Transportation Commission ignored completely the suggestions of the Hollywood Riviera group. "What the people up here wanted was all explained. We gave them our suggestions in writing, and they chopped it to pieces. That's not the way to make this line successful."

The resumption of the line was  
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## Bullets Fail to Halt Youth's Jail Escape

A 19-year-old youth, suspect in an attempted robbery of a Waverly service station, escaped while he was being booked early Monday morning, July 23, from the Torrance Police Station, despite attempts by an officer to halt the youth's flight by firing bullets at him.

The alert is now out for Tony Benneros Escobar, of 2129 W. 203rd street, who ran from the station as officers were taking him to a cell.

The youth vaulted a four-foot counter at the front of the station, ran through the door and into the central section of the city. Pursuing him were Officers Ralph Walker, Joseph Miles and Capt. W. W. Haslam.

Walker sighted the suspect momentarily near the civic auditorium and pumped two shots at him as he ducked behind a store building. When Walker had reached the location where the suspect had been, Escobar had gone.

The youth had been arrested at his home for questioning regarding the attempted armed robbery of a service station at Hawthorne boulevard and Pacific Coast highway about 11 p.m. Sunday. Officers were led to Escobar by an auto license number and description given by Thomas W. Brown, of 24005 Ocean street, Waverly, attendant at the station.

Brown said the bandit threatened him with a gun, but was frightened off when a customer's car entered the station.

Escobar, for whom a statewide alarm was sounded, is described as 5 feet, 5 inches tall, 125 pounds, dark complexioned and wearing a small goatee.

# PARKING METERS ORDERED FOR TORRANCE BY CITY COUNCIL



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## Schools Get \$130,000 Federal Aid

### MONEY TO BE USED TO PURCHASE SITES

That new school sites would be purchased with the \$130,246 granted to the Torrance Unified School District by the Federal government was indicated this week in an interview with Mrs. Grace Wright, vice-chairman of the Board of Education.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, who was notified of the grant last Friday, said that the district will receive federal grants for three more years to come, under the law.

Mrs. Wright said that, as the money is to take care of the excess growth of a district, caused by the mobilization program, it will have no effect on the school tax rate, and will be used toward expansion plans. She added that the population here has increased 18% within the last year, with only a 6% increase in assessed valuation.

With other nearby school districts not being as fortunate in the sums promised by the federal government as Torrance, Dr. Hull said that all Torrance parents, industrial executives, teachers, local bank officials, the U. S. Employment Service, and the Chamber of Commerce are to be fully commended and thanked for their cooperation in giving the school district the information needed in applying for this federal grant-in-aid.

Dr. Hull said he especially wished to thank F. Lindsey, of the State Department of Education for advising the school district to apply for the grant. The money is available under a public law which provides federal financial assistance to school districts for construction of new facilities where the impact of the mobilization program has caused overcrowding.

### No Contract for Stevens in City Job

City Manager George W. Stevens cannot have a three year contract, as it is in violation of the City Charter, it was revealed Tuesday night by Councilman Nick Draie, and as a result, the resolution fixing his annual salary at \$11,000 per year will be altered to read that Stevens be appointed for an "indefinite term."

Draie pointed out that the City Charter provides that "The City Manager shall be appointed for an indefinite term and shall be removable at the pleasure of the City Council but only upon the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the members of the City Council."

City Attorney James Hall requested permission to amend the resolution to conform with the Charter.



WILL WORK ANYPLACE . . . and to prove the point, Johnny Gerster, left, manager of Universal Furniture Company, 1317 Sartori Ave., demonstrated use of the Bendix Washer (center of photo) to one of his customers in the parking area in front of the store. However, washing machine or auto, Officer Harold "Zeke" Trezise of the Torrance Police Department, says it's been parked too long and rewards Gerster with a parking ticket while bystanders look on.  
—Torrance Press photo.

## Armed Bandits Rob Business Here of \$600

A local businessman was tied hand and foot, gagged, and robbed of about \$600 by two armed bandits early Tuesday evening. This was the second of two robberies here within the last week, according to police reports.

The first hold-up was that of a service station at Hawthorne and Redondo Beach boulevards Sunday at which \$285 was taken.

Fred R. Ruff, who owns the appliance shop at DeVore Electric, 1875 Carson street said that the two bandits, armed with a .32 calibre blue steel automatic, came into his store about 6:40 Tuesday evening, removed all the currency from his cash register, and two wallets from his own  
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## Gunmen Rob Local Service Station of \$285

Robbed of \$285 by two armed bandits about 3 a.m. Sunday morning, July 22, was a service station at Hawthorne and Redondo Beach boulevards, according to police reports.

The attendant, alone at the time, reported that one of the men threatened him with a .45-calibre blue steel army automatic pistol and forced him to scoop cash from the till into a paper bag. The other bandit remained in the car, parked at the curb of the station.

The culprit refused small change which the attendant started to put into the bag after the bills had been taken from the till.

## 12-Page Paper in Hongkong, \$8.10 Month!

Residents of Hongkong pay \$8.10 a month for their local newspaper, one of 12 pages, the same size as the Torrance Press.

A daily newspaper, the Hongkong Standard is 25c an issue, with the Sunday edition costing local people 40c. Yearly rates of the Hongkong Standard is \$97.20 for people living in that city. For those living in China, the paper costs \$10.10 per month; for foreigners, the cost is \$11.60 per month.

## 578th Set for Korea Rumor 'Unfounded'

Parents, wives, sisters, brothers and friends of men in the 578th Engineer Combat Battalion of the 40th California National Guard Division, formerly stationed in Torrance, were alarmed as reports indicating that the unit, now in Japan, might be sent on to Korea, were rumored.

The Department of Defense, however, said last Saturday, that such reports were "unfounded."

About 100 Torrance area men with the 578th battalion were  
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## Benner Slaps Censor On Fire Dept. Reports

Public record in the city of Torrance's fire department is now "censored" before being released to newspapers, according to an order given to all fire department captains by Fire Chief J. J. Benner.

A notice, for the attention of each captain, dated July 9, 1951, reads as follows: "There is to be absolutely no information given to newspapers or any other source until it has been cleared through my office." This statement is signed by Fire Chief Benner.

When asked why this "censorship" on public records has been established, Chief Benner replied: "I wouldn't say that this is 'censorship.' It's just a matter of getting things straightened out."

ONLY TEMPORARY  
He vaguely added, "It's only a temporary arrangement. We're just trying to get certain things organized."

Not mentioning what the "certain things" were that needed organizing, Benner further denied that such ban on news could be called "censorship."

It has been hinted by many in the fire department that reason for this order on the part of the fire chief was due to a story printed recently in this newspaper, quoting one of the fire captains as supervisor over the fighting of a certain fire, instead of the fire chief.

NEWSPAPERS in the area are indignant at this new order, which they emphasize that fire department records are public records.  
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## \$100 Needed For Operation

Mrs. J. E. Yates, a local clerk, lost \$100 at noon last Thursday, July 19, near the Bank of America in downtown Torrance. Mrs. Yates, who resides at 910 Fay-smith st., Torrance, is in need of the money for an operation. A reward will be given for the return of the \$100.

Mrs. Yates had just taken the money out of the bank last  
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## Urgency Proposal Deleted

As predicted exclusively in the Torrance Press last edition, the City Council Tuesday night bought parking meters for Torrance.

BUT, the ruling four did not consider the purchase an "urgency" measure, and did not name the "parking authority" of five men to be picked by the Mayor.

They established a "central traffic district" for installation of the meters.

It will take 30 days or more to pass the ordinance and growing opposition from merchants and motorists who will be required to deposit coins to park in Torrance may yet stop the purchase.

Even as Torrance is moving to install parking meters, the residents of Monrovia have presented signatures of 1700 residents to their city clerk protesting enforcement of the recently passed meter ordinance there. There will be an election on the matter, in Monrovia.

**DISTRICT DEFINED**  
The parking meters will be installed, unless stopped by referendum petitions and an election, or unless the Council votes the ordinance down, in the following area designated "Central Traffic District": Carson street from Border avenue to Arlington avenue; Cabrillo avenue from Carson street to Torrance boulevard; Torrance boulevard from Cabrillo avenue to Cota avenue; Craven avenue from Torrance boulevard to Carson street; Sartori avenue from Torrance boulevard to Cabrillo avenue.  
The penny and nickel type meter  
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## Workings of Schools Here Outlined

How Torrance Unified School District functions as public administration governed by the people has been outlined by Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, and is released for public information by the Torrance Press for the first time.

The school district is governed by a Board of Education elected by the people.

The Board of Education appoints on four-year contract, required by law, a superintendent of schools, who also is secretary to the Board of Education.

As chief administrative officer, the superintendent is superior to the assistant superintendent, also on four-year contract; to the director of education, the administrative assistant, the principals, the director of special services, and each of these administrators has assigned to his duties certain functions and personnel.

Directly under the Superintendent of Schools, the following duties fall:

Secretary to Board of Education; Execute board policies; General direction of the school system; Develop educational policies; Supervise administrative  
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### DIES LATER

## Firemen Help Revive Woman From Death

With the aid of two Torrance firemen, Mrs. Laura Moreno, "dead" for 25 minutes returned to consciousness Monday, July 23, only to die three hours later.

While being operated on for an abdominal disorder in Torrance Memorial hospital the heart of the 34-year-old woman stopped beating for 25 minutes. Dr. Charles T. La France manipulated the heart and Capt. Gordon Northington and Fireman Don Davis of the Torrance Fire Department administered oxygen.

Their efforts were successful. But Mrs. Moreno's heart stopped again early in the afternoon. This time the halt was permanent.

She resided at 1314 Carnelita street, Redondo Beach. Dr. La France was assisted by Dr. Charles Browning. Had the victim lived, she would have been one of few recorded cases to have been brought back to life through the manipulation of the heart.

## Plane Crashes In Local Field, Occupants Unhurt

A flight instructor and his student escaped unscathed as their light plane crash-landed in a field here late Friday, July 20, police reported.

The plane crunched down in a field west of Madrona avenue and north of Del Amo boulevard about 6:30 p.m. after it developed mechanical trouble.

The rough earth crumpled the craft's landing gear and bent the tip of the left wing, it was reported.

Unhurt in the mishap were Hugh Wells, 23, of Inglewood, the pilot-instructor, and Billy Eytchison, 20, of Los Angeles, the student.

The plane had taken off from Gardena Valley Airport several minutes before the incident.