

# STEVENS ADMITS JOSEPH FORCED OUT

## Holiday Spirit In City

The Torrance of 1951 entered the holiday season this week as preparations were being made for Thanksgiving Day, Thursday.

In keeping with the wishes of various establishments of the community, including churches, advertisers and readers, the Torrance Press edition for Thanksgiving week was moved up to today, Sunday, and complete coverage of activities of the week will be found within these pages. The next regular edition will appear on Thursday, November 29.

Schools will close for the holiday weekend, with classes being excused on November 21st. They will resume on Monday, November 26th.

Churches will have special services, as announced in various items on pages of this week's Press.

All stores will be closed on Thanksgiving Day. Shop early and take advantage of the holiday specials.

Public offices and banks will close in observance of the celebration.

Private citizens are looking forward to the traditionally good Thanksgiving dinner, with the entire family gathered round to commemorate the solemn and well-loved holiday — Thanksgiving.

## King Will Check on Own Case

Congressman Cecil R. King, of the 17th Congressional district, has announced in Washington that a committee of which he is chairman will investigate "false rumors" that he personally had intervened in a tax case to halt prosecution. King's committee is the House Internal Revenue Investigating Subcommittee.

King did not say specifically what the rumors were. He said they were "to the effect that a certain tax investigation arising in Southern California was mishandled in some mysterious fashion."

King said "rumors of intervention by me in this case are completely false and, I can only suspect, malicious in intent."

King added he would pay no attention to them were it not for his responsibilities as chairman of the subcommittee.

The House Ways and Means Subcommittee has been investigating numerous reports of irregularities in Federal tax collectors' offices over the country.

## North Torrance Man Loses Polio Fight

Friends of Charles Rickabaugh, 30, were saddened to learn that he died of Polio in the General Hospital on Thursday. He lived at 3219 West 186th Street in North Torrance with his wife and five children until he was stricken with the dreaded disease 13 days ago.

His wife Arlene is expecting her sixth child in less than two weeks.

Four of the Rickabaugh children are students at the new Crenshaw Elementary School. They are Carl, 10, Chloe, 9, Catherine, 8, and Cherie, 6.

Hugh, the fifth child, is three years old.

Rickabaugh was an employee of Northrop Aviation before he was stricken on Oct. 29. At first he thought it was the flu. On Nov. 2, he was rushed to the General Hospital in Los Angeles when paralysis set in.

At the General, the doctors performed a tracheotomy and placed him in an iron lung. He went into a coma a short time later. He came out of it again but was considered in a critical condition until he died this week.

Rickabaugh was the 28th victim claimed by polio this year. Last year to date polio had killed 16 in the county, according to health department records.

## Robinson Talks At Post Meet

Abe Robinson, vice-president of Lawson Jewelers, will deliver an address, "The History of Diamonds," at the Social Meeting of the Bert S. Crossland Post, American Legion, Joseph Platt, Adjutant of the Post, announced that the meeting will be held Tuesday, November 20th, 8:00 p.m. at the Border Avenue Hall.

SALES TRAINING CLASS  
A Christmas sales training class at El Camino College has been announced by John M. Mills, Assistant director of instruction at El Camino College.

# Torrance PRESS

Serving Torrance, Lomita, Shoestring, Harbor City and Keystone

Printed 100% Union Shop  
For Emergency Ambulance Phone Torrance 1818

3rd Year TORRANCE, CALIF., NOVEMBER 18, 1951 5c Per Copy Number 32

# 13,500

THE LARGEST CIRCULATION  
NEWSPAPER IN TORRANCE  
AND LOMITA

Phone Torrance 1185-1186

## New Council to Annex Alondra

### PETITIONS READY FOR RESIDENTS

Legal formalities pertaining to the petition of residents of the Alondra Park section north of Redondo Beach boulevard to annex to Torrance are being prepared, it was announced this week, but their handling will be timed so that they reach the City Council after the Municipal election in April.

Jack White, president of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, is cooperating with leaders in the annexation movement, and he is being assisted by O. Z. Draie, father of Councilman Nick Draie who is the lone advocate on the City Council of the annexation.

**MORAL OBLIGATION**  
"Even though the City Council majority as presently constituted does not want to consider the annexation matter," Draie said, "I do not believe that they have the moral right to refuse better government facilities to these people. They may have a legal right to refuse, but morally where a group of residents want to get better protection of life and property, better schools, better sanitation facilities and other improvements in the very thing that government stands for, they should not be denied this right."

Draie said that the papers necessary to notice and petition for annexation are being prepared, and that the people of the

### Woman's Club Announces Xmas Plans

The Junior Woman's Club of Torrance announced recently their Christmas philanthropies for this year. Gifts will be made to the Veteran's Hospital at Sawtelle; Girl's Detention Home at Ventura; and the T. B. Ward of the Harbor General Hospital.



## Thanksgiving

### YMCA Flapjack Breakfast Attracts Hundreds of Interested Residents

by Mary Roden Spahn  
Hundreds of hungry citizens fished past sizzling flapjacks yesterday at the YMCA flapjack breakfast. Mountains of pancakes and sausages, along with gallons of hot coffee, were consumed at this gastronomical orgy. The army cooking teams did an admirable job of keeping the chow coming fast and steady.

Serving was done by the YMCA's Hi-T and Tri-Hi-Y clubs.  
At 10:30 the crowd of satiated guests witnessed the honoring of our local "Good Neighbors." The seven nominees, Mrs. Margaret Webb, Mrs. Vera Wright, Mrs. Elizabeth Leeds, Mrs. Margaret O'Toole, Mrs. Bessie Putman, Mrs. Charles Ward, and Mrs. Martha Evans, were presented with honor certificates for their good neighborliness by Robert L. Plomert, chairman of the breakfast committee.

In addition to the certificate, each of the ladies received a corsage, compliments of La Galeria Florists.  
Jules Strong Bow, well known television personality, was on hand to greet breakfasters.  
INVOCATIONS were conducted hourly during the breakfast. Rev. Cecil England delivered the first invocation at 7 a.m. Rev. Arthur was in charge at 8 a.m.

At nine, Rev. Russell Killman spoke, and at ten H. H. Miller was in charge.  
Clarence Miller delivered the invocation at eleven.  
Victuals (vittles) were donated by the following concerns: Mayfair Creamery, milk and cream; Schilling Coffee Company, coffee; Sperry Division of General Mills, pancake flour; Union Packing Company, sausage. The excellent promotion, handled by Milt Isbell, was largely aided by a sound truck loaned by the United Steel Workers Union.  
BREAKFAST PROCEEDS  
Proceeds from the breakfast are to be used to defray operating expenses of the YMCA. Most of the \$1,000.00 was made up by this event.

## Engineer Resigns Under City Council Pressure

City engineer Jacob Joseph turned in his resignation Nov. 9 to become effective Nov. 30, at the request of city officials, the Press revealed in an exclusive story in its last edition. This information was admitted today by George Stevens, city manager. Joseph was employed July 1, 1951, at a salary of \$550 per month.

His probationary period will be up Nov. 30. Stevens said the city engineer did not fit into the "small city" picture.

"By his own admission," said Stevens, "he's ready to retire from engineering. We need a younger man."

A check with Joseph showed that he was far from the retiring age. He is 58 years old.

"I'm going back to New York and join a petroleum firm as an engineer," said Joseph.

"If the people should want to start the ball rolling for an Eisenhower type of draft, I would be willing to return. However, there's too much intrigue in Torrance under the present setup. I'd rather go some place where I can have more peace of mind."

Earlier this week, there had been an uneasiness among members of the city council at a regular meeting of this body. It was at that time that the Press learned that Joseph would be ousted from his job.

It has been rumored for quite some time that Joseph is being used as a scapegoat for the mistakes of certain city officials. It is pointed out that they were willing to sacrifice Joseph because he hasn't been here very long.

With an election next April, the groups responsible for maintaining certain public nuisances such as gravel pits, oil sumps and rat infested city dumps knew that they would have to do something to placate irate residents of Torrance, it is believed.



Jacob Joseph, popular city engineer, turns out to be fall guy for election-conscious city hall officials. His resignation came as a shock to many residents of this area. They have been bombarding the Press with phone calls wanting more information since the exclusive story appeared in this newspaper.

## Garage Helpers Gripe

Minutes of a recent Civil Service Board meeting at the Torrance City Hall showed that a group of employees from the City Garage were present.

The report stated: "All of the employees present expressed general dissatisfaction over the present supervision and assignment of work in the City Garage."

Raymond H. Reese said that since Paul W. Hughes, mechanic, was laid off recently, he has been called upon to do mechanical work in addition to his welding, and that the greaseman, Glenn Kirkkruff, has also been doing mechanical work.

Following the discussion, the members agreed to make an investigation of conditions at the garage.

## Meeting, Nov. 20

The regular social meeting of the Best S. Crossland American Legion Post will be held Tuesday, November 20th, at 8 p.m., at the Border avenue hall.

## Local Soldier Climbs Japanese Volcano

Cpl. Jim Spratt, stationed in Japan with the 40th National Guard unit, in a letter to his parents, writes that he can claim the distinction of having seen the sun rise from atop Mt. Fujiyama. Jim, graduate of Narbonne '50, accompanied six other intrepid servicemen and a corps of Japanese guides, made the icy ascent in ten hours. The first eight stations up the trail of this historic volcano were made the first day.

The boys spent the night in small wayfarer's station at this point. The night's lodging and breakfast cost the boys the huge sum of seventy yen, the tiny sum of twenty cents.

The two remaining laps of the journey were made before sunrise. The top of the peak was reached just as the sun broke over the horizon. Despite the significance of the event and the beauty of the vista, Jim, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Spratt, reside at 1572 West 215th street, Shoestring Strip, had only this to say: "Boy, was I tired."

Among the souvenirs that Jim sent home was the climbing staff seen in the picture. It is inscribed with Japanese symbols, one burned in at each of the ten stations up the mountain.

Jim also writes that though there are many "Southland boys" at Camp McNair in Japan, including a number of local boys, he still misses the home town "like mad." He joined the Guard at sixteen, and trained locally. After graduation from high school, in uniform, Jim completed his training, and shipped out for Japan with the Guard unit last April. See photo, page 14

## BROWNE MARKET HALTED

Truman Browne, popular subdivision, lost a round with the Planning Commission last Wednesday. He requested permission for a zone change to develop two acres for commercial purposes.

He wanted immediate permission to build a market at Sepulveda Blvd. and Inglewood-Freeman Blvd.

The Planning Commission wanted him to move west to Reynolds Dr. and Sepulveda.

**BACKS ARGUMENTS**  
To back up his arguments for the market, Browne presented an artists' sketch of the market building proposed if the change of zone is approved. He stated that there is a definite need for the market at this location in view of the 150 homes he is constructing.

Browne pointed out that it is at least a one mile walk for residents to get a loaf of bread or a bottle of milk.

**BOLAS OBJECTS**  
Even though Browne presented the sketch, H. B. Bolas said: "Mr. Browne, how can we act when you haven't specifically presented a plan?"

Browne pointed out that he could not present an over-all plan of the entire commercial area because he didn't know exactly when the various businesses would have a need for buildings. He pointed out that he had a specific plan for the market.

## Xmas Lights Held Up

The best Christmas decorations that Torrance has ever had will illuminate the downtown section of Sartori and El Prado if wiring can be obtained, Harry Abramson, Christmas decorations chairman for the merchants, disclosed today.

He said that No. 12 weather-proof wiring is needed to insure installation of the street lights. This particular wiring is on government allocation and cannot be furnished by the Jones Decorating Co., the organization which will install the street lights.

"Anyone knowing where this material can be obtained, please contact me at Torrance 78 or the Torrance Press at Torrance 1185," declared Abramson.

## Barclay Survey

The City Council at its last meeting approved an appropriation of \$355 to the Barclay Survey Company for engineering services during the month of October.