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# COUNCIL EYES COUNTY AREA

## Assemblyman Will Support Drive For New Guard Armory

### Reveal Press Efforts

The local campaign to obtain a National Guard Armory for this city, a campaign supported largely by this newspaper, seemed a step nearer success this week with the announcement that state assemblyman Vincent Thompson has thrown his weight behind the drive. Thomas was largely responsible for getting an armory built in San Pedro.

The California adjutant general's office has asked the state to include in next year's budget funds for the proposed armory.

The adjutant general asked for \$52,233. Thomas told city officials this week that the amount would be insufficient, and that he would seek to have it raised to \$100,000.

In May of this year, the Torrance Press asked city officials to aid in a drive to hasten action on the armory. No offers of help were heard from the quiet corners of city hall. In September, a reporter of this newspaper communicated with Lt. Col. Wm. B. Henderson of the 40th Division headquarters in Los Angeles.

Col. Henderson advised that the real estate dept. would be a likely division to approach on the problem.

So, Major Paul Binford of the Guard's real estate section, was contacted.

Major Binford inspected the Torrance site, a small tract of ground on Cabrillo Ave., near Lincoln Ave., and set the wheels in motion.

If the state allocates the requested \$100,000 for the Torrance armory, and all indication are that it will, the federal government will match it with an additional \$100,000, and Torrance will at long last get its training center for its National Guard unit.

### Expect 3,000 Children At Lions Party Today

More than 3,000 young citizens are expected to throng Civic Auditorium today for the annual Torrance Lions Club Christmas Party.

Started to begin at 1:30 p.m., the program will be highlighted by the appearances of Santa Claus, and Bozo the Clown, according to Walt Schaefer, general chairman of the event.

### LT. THOMPSON HEADS POLICE PISTOL CLUB

Torrance Police Lt. A. S. Thompson, 1418 Engracia Ave., has been elected president of the Torrance Police Revolver Club, Inc., the National Rifle Association announced here today.

Instructor for the newly chartered club is J. Paul, 1511 Cravens Avenue. Other officers, all of Torrance, are: Officer G. Rethwisch, 1836 Reynosa Drive, secretary; and Chief J. H. Stroh, 1732 Watson Avenue, treasurer.

The new shooting club joins thousands of other clubs, similarly chartered by the National Rifle Association, in the promotion of competitive shooting and the teaching of safe firearms handling for all in the community. Members will compete for firing honors in a series of registered tournaments on the club's range.

### Police Alerted in Phone Lootings

Recent looting of telephone coin boxes has resulted in a city-wide alerting of all police officers, it was disclosed this week.

A special agent for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. reported that a booth at the Vermont Drive-In was struck on Tuesday, and that several other coin box thefts have occurred in recent weeks.

### City Opens Campaign to Halt Illegal Dumping in Streets

The city of Torrance and the street and police departments this week opened a campaign to halt the illegal practice of dumping rubbish and trash along Torrance's streets and byways.

City Manager George Stevens prepared the following article on rubbish collection and disposal so that Torrance residents might be better informed as to the problems that are faced by the city.

The collection and disposal of refuse of all types has become a major problem in the cities of Southern California. This is especially true in our own community. The principle factors contributing to the problem are: the change from a rural to urban type of living; the greatly increased use of paper, tin and glass containers in our daily life; and the restrictions placed upon the disposal of refuse by the health and air pollution authorities.

As late as 1948, collection service for refuse on a regular basis was furnished to only the central section of the city. Occasional collections were made in the north and south sections of the community. The street cleaning program provided regular service to only the downtown business and residential sections, the sweeping being performed by a man with a push-broom. The first mechanical sweeper to modernize the program was purchased on August 26, 1948.

Garbage and non-combustible rubbish, (tin cans and bottles) were collected and disposed of by a private contractor on a limited scale. Combustible refuse was collected by City forces and burned at the City's open dump, located on Plaza del Amo near Western Avenue.

Today, twice weekly, collection of garbage and non-combustible refuse is extended to all residents of the city; daily, except Sundays, to the business district. City forces collect combustible refuse weekly in the residential districts and daily, except Sundays, in the business district. Our two mechanical motor-sweepers are in operation each week-day in some section of the city. The business streets are swept six times each week. All of this service is furnished without special levy. Few cities in this area equal such service, none surpass it.

To handle the ever-increasing amount of refuse and to meet the restrictions imposed upon disposal methods, the City has mechanized and stream-lined its collection system and provided for efficient and satisfactory disposal.



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING—Larry and Johnny Schaefer, ages three and six, peer anxiously up their chimney for the first appearance of St. Nick. The kids expect to see their Christmas friend this afternoon at 1:30 at Civic Auditorium where the Torrance Lions Club is staging their annual children's Christmas party. Boys are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schaefer.

### Mother, Gone Eight Days, Returns Home

A 27-year-old Lomita mother, who disappeared suddenly ten days ago, has returned to her home, according to the sheriff's missing persons bureau.

Mrs. Frances Deatherage, 27, of 2442 Pacific Coast Hwy., dropped from sight after departing from the Torrance bus depot for Los Angeles, where she was to go shopping and visit a doctor.

On Tuesday, she called her husband Cecil Deatherage at the U. S. Steel Co. plant here from a San Francisco hotel. Before he could return her call, however, she had gone.

No explanation has been given for her sudden departure or for her return on Thursday, sheriff's officials said.

### SANTA'S SENIOR PARTNER

Santa may be in the spotlight these days, but there's one star that shines the year around.

That star is, of course, a Torrance Press Classified ad. Those helpful, inexpensive Press classifieds play Santa 12 months a year. And whether you want customer, tenants, or a good job, a Press ad can make your wishes come true.

Mrs. R. Cochran, of 20602 New Hampshire ave., can tell you how marvelous Press ads are.

This little ad, inserted only once, sold an accordion for her:

12 BASS Franchal accordion, slightly used. With case, \$25. 20602 New Hampshire.

Buy it, sell it, rent it through Torrance Press classified ads. Convenient, inexpensive, effective. Call Torrance 1185.

(Continued on Page 7)

### City Promises Relief from Erosion in Seaside Heights

Relief is in sight for residents of Sharynne Lane in Seaside Heights who have been troubled with dirt sliding down an embankment behind their homes during severe rains.

The embankment, an artificial hill created by two tract developers, has eroded large amounts of dirt onto the back fences of several homes.

The plans as approved by the city engineer called for the installation of an open drainage ditch. However, the weather beat the builders, and the erosion problem resulted.

Today, Assistant City engineer John Patrick revealed that plans are being drawn up to revamp the drainage ditch so that it will serve the purpose.

He stated also that the two developers, Truman Browne and Boltenbach and Kelton, will get no final inspections on their homes until the ditches are constructed and working.

### Living Tableau Of Nativity at Local Church

A living tableau portraying scenes from the Nativity is being enacted each evening during the Christmas holiday on the grounds in front of the Foursquare Church, El Prado at Cabrillo ave.

The scenes, featuring 14 members of the congregation, include the arrival of Mary and Joseph at Bethlehem, the appearance of the angels, and the adulation of the shepherds and wise men.

A live white donkey and several sheep are being used in the realistic production, and a stable with manger has been built as a background for the scenes.

Three more performances are slated this week, according to Rev. William Clayton, pastor of the church. They will be held this evening, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Christmas eve, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

### Consider Section West of City

Faced with two adjacent communities that are seeking to annex virtually all the land left for the expansion of this city, a glimmering of hope that the city council would at least investigate the problem was seen this week.

The question of annexing territories yet available to this city was discussed by the council at an agenda meeting last Wednesday.

### Distribute Last Issue of Year Next Monday

Next week's issue of the Torrance Press will be distributed one week from today, on Monday, Dec. 29.

The earlier distribution date will give our readers and advertisers three extra days for the beginning of the popular January clearances.

Deadline for both advertising and news copy will be Friday, Dec. 26, at 5 p.m. We solicit your cooperation in getting all copy in before that time.

The Press office will be closed on New Year's day.

### Slate More 'Tilt-Up' Type Schools Here

Pre-cast tilt-up schools are more useful here than portable classroom units, members of the Board of Education were told last week by administrators.

The Board was faced with deciding which of the two types to use in future construction of elementary schools.

Chief value of the portable units being built by some districts is that they may be shifted to meet changes in school population trends. However, no appreciable changes of this nature are anticipated here during the next few years, the board was told.

The portables cost somewhat less to construct than the tilt-ups, but their maintenance cost is higher, it was related.

It was agreed that erection of some portables at existing permanent schools is advisable, and may be necessary before too long.

### Dinner Party

Fifty-one members of the Alter Realty and Insurance Co. were guests of their employer, Gerald Alter, at a party held Friday night at the Ding How Cafe.

The Christmas dinner party was combined with an annual all-employee business conference, Alter disclosed. Gifts were exchanged.



NATIVITY TABLEAU—Scenes from the Nativity highlight the Christmas celebration at the Foursquare Church, corner of El Prado and Cabrillo aves. A live donkey and two sheep are featured in the scenes. Each evening from now until Christmas, members of the congregation will be starred in a series of living tableau scenes from the birth of Christ. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. tonight, tomorrow night, and Wednesday.

# Lion's Childrens Xmas Party Today