



DIAL YOUR PHONE STARTING SUNDAY

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System Opens New City Era

One minute after midnight this coming Saturday night Torrance will be transformed into one of the most modern and advanced cities not only in California but in the entire country, Manager Richard S. Pyle announced.

A magic string will be pulled . . . PRESTO, Torrance will be among those very few cities which will have the most forward-looking telephone system yet devised, the manager stated.

TELEPHONES READY FOR SWITCHOVER

Manager Richard S. Pyle of the telephone company said that final testing of both the dial switching equipment in the central office building and of subscribers' telephone dials and lines is rapidly nearing completion. Testing of thousands of switches and checking of additional thousands of soldered wires right up to the time of the dial conversion has been ordered by Wire Chief Richard L. Hayes.

Meanwhile, subscribers are preparing to remove special "tear-out" cards on their dial wheels which reveal the new FAirfax numbers. Pre-cutover tests of the maze of switches indicate an extremely low percentage of error, Hayes indicated today. All is ready to "kill" the switchboards in the old non-dial office and simultaneously cut the new dial office into service.

The wire chief said the main reason for making the cutover at midnight is to take advantage of the low volume of calls normally placed at that time. Switchmen in the old office will jerk fuse-like "heat coils" from equipment, then will signal the wire chief in the new office that this part of the job is completed. The wire chief quickly will signal his own men to pull blocking tools from switches in the new cross-bar equipment, permitting them to spring to action.

When the first calls are placed over the new dial system, the equipment will start a series of clicks as miniature "robots" pass on the impulses dialed by subscribers and complete connections in an instant.

'Little Merchant Plan' Used for Press Distribution

Torrance Press carrier boys are in business for themselves. They are given the newspapers, a delivery route, and the opportunity to develop habits of industry and responsibility. When they stop at your door each month, they are asking for a small sum in payment of their services. What they earn they keep. The sum you give them shows your appreciation of their careful service and is their compensation. The amount you give them is purely optional. You are entitled to receive your copy of the Torrance Press regardless.



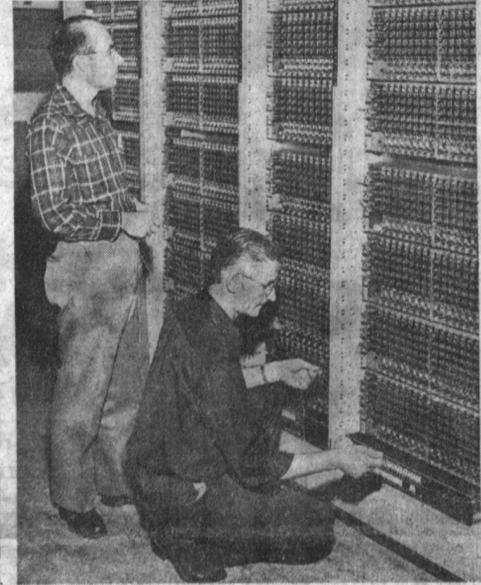
not until 12:01 a.m. Sunday morning, it was disclosed.

Direct Dialing From now on dialing will be direct, swift, and efficient, and Torrance residents will not have to place their calls with the operator any more. Not only will dial-happy citizens find this a great relief but they will enjoy the further privilege of calling the outlying areas directly by dial, without the intermediary services of an operator. It is in this respect that the new system is almost unprecedented.

The new dialing system will remove one of the standing grievances which businessmen and residents in this area have nursed for a long time. Regardless of how conscientious telephone operators have been in carrying out their difficult tasks, the personally operated telephone system necessarily caused unavoidable delays in comparison with what a mechanically operated system has to offer, Pyle said.

Instruction Since the new system will be particularly new as far as the children are concerned, the telephone company will send representatives around to the schools to instruct the students in the method of operating the dial system.

Not only Torrance but Lomita and Harbor City are also included in the forthcoming miracle. As of May 31, Torrance, Lomita, and Harbor City residents will be dialing to their heart's and their purse's content. Only rarely will the pleasant voice of the operator be heard from now on. But operators will still be around for (very) long distance calls, telephone booth calls, and bad or wrong connections, it was disclosed.



THIS IS THE FINAL REQUIREMENT in making the changeover to the new telephone system in Torrance. Telephone Switchmen Laurance Hines and M. K. MacGugan in the new Torrance dial office show how blocking tools will be removed from automatic equipment to put the new system into operation after the non-dial office is "dead."

CITIZENS PROTEST ANNEXATION MOVE

Irate residents of the Dominguez-Hawthorne area protested vigorously against annexation to the city of Torrance at the city council meeting Tuesday night, the council has already adopted a resolution to annex the area.

Fear Encroachment Mrs. Homer Rogers, spokesman for the group, presented the council with a petition signed by nearly all the voters in the disputed area. The residents feel that nothing is to be gained by annexation either to Torrance or Redondo Beach. They wish to be left alone, stating that they moved into the area because they wished to be in the country. If annexed, residents fear encroachment upon their rights and their eventual loss, Mrs. Rogers stated.

To Meet Councilman Nick Dralle asked if Mrs. Rogers and her group would be willing to meet with the council to discuss the matter further. The group was willing to do so but indicated that nothing could be done from their present attitude. A meeting has been set (Continued on Page 4)

Youth Cruelly Beaten; Local Youth Held

Billy Joe Sharp was dragged out of his car by two or possibly five youths, pinned to the ground, beaten and kicked severely, and struck with a rock at a local drive-in last Saturday night. Sharp is in critical condition with a fractured skull and a blood clot on the brain at Harbor general hospital, it was disclosed by the Los Angeles detective bureau in San Pedro, to whom the case was transferred.

One suspect, Herbert Hasselwood, 21, of 21726 Dolores st., Torrance, is being held in connection with the crime. The others are still being sought.

Sharp, of 20611 1/2 S. Vermont, was talking to his younger brother, a Torrance employee, when approached by his assailants. The victim said something about the condition of his car battery. One of the youths who had come up to the car used the occasion to pick a fight, saying that he did not like what Sharp had said, it was reported.

Thereupon at least two youths dragged Sharp out of the car and administered the vicious beating. Sharp drove home under his own power. While talking to his father he passed out, whereupon he was rushed to Harbor general hospital, it was revealed.

SEEK TEN CENT RECREATION TAX

J. A. FORD TO SPEAK AT DINNER

John Anson Ford will be one of the principal speakers at the installation dinner of the Torrance Democrats, Inc. The dinner is to be held next Thursday, June 4.



JOHN ANSON FORD . . . to speak in Allen-Richard Hall, 1925 W. Carson, and will start at 7:30 p.m., it was announced.

Glenn M. Anderson will be master of ceremonies at the event. Judge John A. Shidler will install the new officers: Gordon Lewis, president; Frank Gately, vice-president; Jess Dean, treasurer; Irene (Continued on Page 4)

Opposition To Request Developing

The Torrance Recreation Commission, under fire for more than eight months for failure to provide an adequate and economical recreation program for the city, Tuesday night asked the City Council to levy a special tax of ten cents on each dollar of assessed valuation to finance recreation next year. On the basis of last year's assessment, this tax will produce more than \$60,000 for the recreation commission to spend as they wish.

Opposition

Opposition to the request is already developing with several top city officials claiming they will not support a move to appropriate a larger sum to the commission until certain changes are made in the administration of the department. Another protest to the plan to throw good money after bad in the mis-managed program came from Arthur Sues, chairman of (Continued on Page 4)

NAVY MAN IN HEAD-ON CRASH KILLED

Lawrence P. Rang, 22, died as a result of injuries received from a head-on crash which occurred last Thursday morning on Pacific Coast highway near the west intersection with Newton street.

Rang, a navy man, crashed into a car driven by Donald Larson, 24, who was taken to Harbor General Hospital and transferred from there to the Long Beach veterans hospital. Rang swerved into the path of Larson's car and overturned from the impact, it was reported.

Other occupants of Larson's car were his wife, Colleen, 24, and his mother Christine Larsen, 47, who (Continued on Page 4)

MEMBERSHIP PUSHED BY CIVITAN CLUB

Efforts are being made to complete the charter membership of the new Torrance Civitan Club prior to the Civitan International Convention which will be held in Los Angeles in June, it was announced this week by the local club. This is in response to a letter of congratulations containing such an appeal, received from Ernest (Continued on Page 4)

Hobby, Arts, Flower Show Great Success

Approximately two thousand visitors attended the annual hobby, arts, and flower show which ended a colorful and successful three-day run last Sunday at the Civic auditorium.

A miniature carnival, wood-carvings, a painted shell collection, miniature trains, porcelain dolls and garden arrangements were among the variety of entries to be found.

Two miniature models attracted considerable attention.

Carnival One was a carnival built by Ed Russell, 17, a senior at San Pedro high school. The youth built his "Russell's United Shows" because he was intrigued by the fact that carnivals and circuses could be set up and torn down overnight and then transported long distances. His nine rides, 11 shows, and half a dozen concessions fit into 16 trucks. Russell spent eight (Continued on Page 12)

Mounted Police Being Organized

A Torrance mounted police is being organized by Al Gianni under the sponsorship of the Torrance police department, Chief John Stroh announced.

Gianni, the captain of the mounted troop, states that meetings are being held at his home 2131 182nd street every Thursday night. The group was organized two months ago and plans are

being made now to have mounted drills and gatherings on Gianni's land about twice a month.

Applicants and equipment must conform to high standards, it was stated.

Helping Gianni are Sgt. D. C. Cook of the Torrance police department and Andy Alexander who is an old-timer at parades and is said to have the second best parade horse in the state.

Sixteen members have signed up so far. A total of 25 is aimed at, Gianni said. The purpose of the group is

Woman Sees Home Vanish Before Eyes

Some people put ads in papers to find things but not Mrs. L. J. Horton of 23321 Falena ave. She placed an ad with the Torrance Press hoping that something would disappear.

And what was it that disappeared? A house! "It was like saying 'house!' . . . and it was gone. Such a little ad, and such a big house, and such a fast sale," remarked the pleased Torrance Press advertiser. The ad which brought such agreeable results read as follows:

BY OWNER: 2 bdrms, stucco, good location, water softener, close to shopping center and transportation. 23321 Falena ave.

If you want something to appear or disappear successfully, be sure to try the Torrance Press classifieds. Call Torrance 1185. After the telephone switchover Sunday call FAirfax 8-2345.



ANDY ALEXANDER (left), veteran horseman, indicates that he approves of Captain Al Gianni's idea to organize a Torrance Mounted Police and that he will be glad to lend his assistance. The group will be an auxiliary of the Torrance police department which is sponsoring them.



CHUCK AND JOAN STEWART feel that they and their parents have legitimate reasons for singing "I've been working on the railroad." Few people will dispute the fact. The Stewart family displayed their miniature railroad, which they worked on together and which was five years in building, at the recent Hobby and Arts Show sponsored by the Torrance Jaycees. The set, of course, received a first prize.