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VOLUME V THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1953 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA 120

## Countin' Heads Again

# POPULATION ZOOMING, SPECIAL CENSUS SOON

### 3rd Official Tab Unprecedented

The second special census since the regular 1950 census is definitely being planned for sometime this Fall. The latter part of August and the first part of September are being considered, according to City Manager George Stevens.

Authoritative sources indicate that Torrance is the first city requiring a second special census.

Stevens indicated that 7,000 more people would set the additional revenue figure at \$60,000 to \$70,000 more a year than what the city is now getting. The main sources of the fund would come from 'in lieu' and gasoline taxes.

The city manager felt that by waiting till the Fall, the chances are good that the census will reveal a population of over 40,000, though he does not expect the figure to be too much higher.

A good pre-census estimate will be available with a report soon to come in from the Edison Co. indicating the total number of electrical meters serviced and installed.

With a population of 40,000 people (Continued on Page 10)

### 450 Acres

## \$27 MILLION DEVELOPMENT CONFIRMED

Official confirmation has come from the developers that a 450 acre tract development at an estimated cost of \$27,000,000 and ultimately to contain about 2,500 houses is being undertaken by the Milton Kauffman Construction Corporation.

This announcement confirms the story reported exclusively by this paper three weeks ago.

The tract also received official city sanction last week when the Planning Commission mapped and approved the first unit of the huge home tract project containing 764 lots for homes and two large commercial lots for shopping districts at 190th st. and Hawthorne Blvd.

Location. The tract, which is bounded by 190th st., Hawthorne Blvd., Beryl st. and Del Amo Blvd., will contain two different shopping centers, two parks, and schools, according to Don Wilson of the Kauffman Construction Corp.

Starting Date. Construction on 300 of the first 764 homes will begin Oct. 1, Wilson stated. The homes to be constructed are three and four bedroom homes consistent with what the company has done in the past. The homes will all be under \$12,000.

Minor Problems. Wilson stated that only some (Continued on Page 10)



DOUBT OR AWE seem to be the moods reflected by these beginning tap-dancers as they watch Donna Isbell, 13, a veteran "trooper," strike a graceful pose. (Left to right) Karen Lucas, 8 1/2, and Donna Frederick, 9, are really the only ones training their eyes in awe on Donna. Twins Janie and Jimmy Ioppa, 6, already study what to do with their feet. But to little Sharon Soressen, 5, the mysteries of outer space seem nothing as compared with the fathomless mysteries

of tap-dancing, judging from the concentrated manner with which she regards her foot. This tap-dancing class held Mondays at Torrance Park is part of the new Children's Specialty Club program offered by the Recreation Department as part of the summer program. Free instruction, under the direction of Bettie Thomas of the Bettie Thomas Studio, is given at five different places during the week. The program includes tap dancing, rhythms, tumbling, baton twirling, and drums.

### ALL'S WELL

## City Spends Safe Holiday, Chief States

"We've done very well," said Police Chief John Stroh, and he meant Torrance generally. The chief's comment referred to Torrance's Fourth of July week-end which was safe and sane in every respect with no accidents or fires reported.

"This year there were twelve fireworks stands. Last year we had less than that and one of them burned down."

The stands took in about \$50,000, the chief also stated.

No kids were reported hurt last year. All was calm at the beaches this year, too.



THIS ISN'T JUST AN ORDINARY CHAIR, at least not to Delbert J. Thomsen of 1447 El Prado. This honey maple rocking chair was actually made by Thomsen himself, and what is more, it is the FIRST project which he made in the Torrance High School Adult Education evening class in woodworking. The rocker, which is a copy of an original antique, only cost \$14 to construct. Thomsen, who is an accountant for the Columbia-Geneva Steel Division, professionally is a "student" in Harold Stroh's woodworking class. The adult evening program, which consists of a wide variety of subjects of which woodworking is only one, is under the direction of Vernon Sheblak.

## She Counts Phone Calls --105 of 'Em

Strange stories come to the attention of a newspaper. Some are phoned in, some are found, some are even brought in.

"There were 105 of them," said the woman as she burst into the door of this paper's office.

"One-hundred and five?" the receptionist asked, trying to find meaning in the figure.

"Yes, 105 of them, as I told you over the phone," the woman continued excitedly.

And then she explained that she was Mrs. Alice Jeffway of 25604 Oak st. and that, just for the fun of it, she had counted every telephone call which had come in to her in answer to an ad she had placed with the Press Classifieds. She had received 105 calls for her rent ad which read as follows:

FIVE ROOM, 2 small children OK. 25604 Oak St., Lomita. Call at reer. DA 6-2280

Why not place an ad with the Torrance Press Classifieds, and count the results!

## ORNAMENTAL POLE LIGHTING SOUGHT

At a Torrance Gardens-Plaza Homeowners Association meeting held last week it was decided to adopt an overhead lighting system for the area at a straight cost of \$30 per homeowner.

A majority of the 800 homeowners must come out in favor of this decision and a petition is being circulated now to get sufficient signatures. About 200 homeowners were present at the meeting and the vote was 3-1 in favor of this decision and a petition is being circulated now to get sufficient signatures. About 200 homeowners were present at the meeting and the vote was 3-1 in favor of overhead lighting and ornamental poles.

Publicity chairman Hugh Root. (Continued on Page 10)

## Raising of Neon Sign, Street Dance Planned

All the money needed for the erection of a large 9 ft. by 16 ft. neon sign to be located at Torrance Blvd. and Western Ave. has been collected in full. The \$1,500 sign, which has been a Chamber of Commerce project, should be up by September. A turn-on celebration together with a free community street dance have been tentatively set for Friday evening, Sept. 11 awaiting only City Council approval, according to Dale Isenberg, executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

A letter, which has been submitted to City Manager George Stevens, asks permission of the city of Torrance for erecting the sign on the southwest corner of Torrance Blvd. and Western Ave. which area is city property.

Street Dance. At the same time permission is being asked of the City Council to close off El Prado st. between Sartori and Cravens Ave. Friday evening, September 11, from 6 p.m. (Continued on Page 10)

## Move Made To Re-Zone Yukon Avenue

A move to re-zone both sides of Yukon Ave. from Redondo Beach Blvd. to 182nd St. drew 16 protests and five approvals according to Secretary Lloyd. The Planning Commission had initiated a plan to re-zone the area to R-3 (multiple - family residential). A second public hearing will be held at 8 p.m. on July 15 before the City Council.

## Civic Center Site Hearing

C. J. Doherty, vice-president of the Chancellor-Canfield Midway Oil Co. requested that re-zoning of the approximately 240 acres north of Maricopa between Maple and Madonna be held up to allow a survey of the property which is now under way. A second hearing on the proposal will be held before the City Council.

## De SIMONE'S CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

DeSimone Market, which is celebrating its anniversary this week with an anniversary sale as illustrated in a special green-colored section of this paper, looks back on a colorful history.

Fred DeSimone opened the first market on El Paseo near the entrance to the pier in 1906. From there the store moved to where Herman's is now.

DeSimone remained at this location until the property was purchased by the Farmer's and Merchant's Bank. From here the store went to 104 N. Pacific Ave. This is where Eich's is now located.

In 1940 John DeSimone opened the 101 Ranch Market and then in 1949, the present store.

## Investigate Retirement Program

Councilman Nick Drale has announced that he is making an inquiry into the city retirement set-up in order to see whether it is possible to reduce the costs to the taxpayer by bringing city employees under the social security program rather than keeping them under the present special retirement program.

Drale stated that the present program costs the taxpayer 12c on every \$100 assessed valuation. He believes that a social security program might be less costly and might extend greater benefits.

The councilman has written to Representative Vincent Thomas and Congressman Cecil King to see whether there is a way of bringing municipal employees under the social security set-up.

Councilman Drale stated that there are no social security laws at present covering municipal employees, but that in some cities the taxpayers have voted for the introduction of social security. While those favoring the city retirement plan did declare that it was costly, they did state it had many merits.

## QUEEN SOUGHT

### City Lovelies To Compete In Contest

Announcements for the beginning of the annual "Miss Torrance Queen Contest" will be made next week. The committee is being formed and final details for the staging of the event are being worked out by the Torrance Area Youth Bands, sponsors. Tentative plans include the queen contest to be held in the Civic Auditorium followed by the big Coronation Ball to be held shortly afterward, according to W. E. Bowen, president of the Torrance Area Youth Bands.

Awards. Certain big prizes await the Torrance Miss who is selected queen for this year. The new queen will be crowned at the elaborate coronation ball by Miss Shirley White, winner of last year's queen contest. Miss White received numerous prizes last year which included a Rose-Marie bathing suit and an all-expenses week-end trip, via Western Airlines, to Las Vegas.

She was crowned by Jackie Laughery, Miss United States of America, at the coronation ball held at the Palos Verdes Country Club. Master of ceremonies for the event was Guy Mitchell, famous singing star of radio, television, and motion picture fame.

Watch next week's newspapers for final details of this year's event.



ONLY ONE MORE TIME will "Miss Torrance of 1953" carry out her official functions. At the completion of the Miss Torrance Queen Contest, which will start next week, outgoing Queen Shirley White will abdicate her throne, by crowning the queen-to-be at a spectacular Coronation Ball. Last year's lovely winner, chosen from among 13 contestants, received numerous prizes which included a Rose-Marie bathing suit and an all-expenses week-end trip, via Western Airlines, to Las Vegas.

## H. Tidwell Asks for Jury Trial

Haskell Tidwell, ousted secretary of the San Pedro Retail Clerks Union, asked for a jury trial to hear his case and pleaded not guilty to charges of assault and to brandishing a gun, in the South Bay Municipal Court Friday morning.

The ex-union official is accused of threatening Wallace Elliott, president of the union, with a gun at the latter's home, 2811 Olive st., last Sunday.

Tidwell appeared without benefit of his attorney, Alexander Schulman, who is on vacation. The plea was received by Judge John A. Shidler, who set Aug. 7 at 9:30 a.m. as the date and time of trial.

Prosecution Attorney Boris Woolley said that a third charge, carrying a concealed weapon, would be added to the charges when Tidwell appears for trial. Tidwell is free on a \$100 bail after he was served with a warrant signed by Judge Otto B. Willett charging him with violating Section 240 of the Penal Code, simple assault, and Section 417, drawing and exhibiting a gun in a threatening manner not in self defense, and in the presence of other persons.

Tidwell denied the assault and the pulling of a gun.

Sgt. M. H. Porter said that when he arrested Tidwell on Monday morning at 6 o'clock he came to the door with a .38 calibre revolver in his hand. Sgt. Porter said the gun had four live rounds, and one empty shell in the cylinder.

Two witnesses to the alleged assault, including Elliott's mother, (Continued on Page 10)

## Alert Police Detect, Stop Bedroom Fire

While making a routine check at Paul's Chevrolet early one morning this week, two Torrance police officers thought they detected signs of smoke. Their decision to investigate further led to the discovery of an unsuspected bedroom fire in a nearby hotel which might have killed one man (Continued on Page 10)

# REP. KING ATTACKS HARVEY CUT-BACK

Charging as irresponsible economic blow to the Los Angeles area, King stated.

"The necessity of shipping forgings and extrusions from either Massachusetts or Ohio to the West Coast does not seem to show a sensible form of economy," he said.

Alternatives More Costly. Under the original program, King told his fellow legislators, the Harvey Company was to receive a total press capacity of 88,000 tons. The per ton cost to the government by the Harvey Co. was \$200 under the nearest competitor. By cutting the press capacity of the company in which the government has the least investment, and the company with the lowest cost per ton capacity, means that the government must pay \$200 to \$300 more per ton.

King pointed out that according to present plans of the Air Force the reduction of presses from 17 to 10 would eliminate the West Coast and concentrate the huge stamping machines capable of turning out complete aircraft sections in the East.

Economic Blow. To deprive Southern California of the three heavy presses previously awarded to the Harvey Machine Co., of Torrance, will not only work a hardship on the local aircraft industry but be an economic

program would be a stretch-out, whereby only one, two or more part of the total number of presses designated for each of the seven companies would be delivered to an installation this year, with additional units to be installed as funds are authorized.

Not Party Issue. King stated to the delegation that this is not a party issue, but one in which the entire California group must pull together. He charged that the West Coast is being treated as an orphan in this reduction and pointed out that in the Los Angeles area, where nearly 50% of the aircraft industry of the nation is located, we are to have none of the presses that would produce new wing sections, panels and beams in one piece that would give greater safety and maneuverability to our jet planes.