

TORRANCE PRESS

Conveniently Located at 1406 Cravens Avenue — Phone FAirfax 8-2345

VOLUME V

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA—THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1953

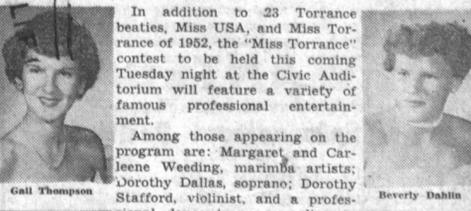
120

NUMBER 19

5¢
Member of the Controlled Circulation Newspapers of America
100,000 READERS
Phone FAirfax 8-2345

O. J. Foraman
P. O. Drawer 127
Monmouth, Illinois

33 CANDIDATES



Call Thompson, Beverly Dahlin, Ann Flett, Shirley Saitzman, Jo Ann Harlan, Norma Pierce, Margaret Epefano, Karen Dean, Ella Mae McLeod, Ann Leo, Joanne Parker, Frieda Kittrell, Pat Galda, Mary Ann Notman, Shirley Loutin, Allene Sparks, Sandra Lee Constance, Jo Ann Howard, Betty Weller, Theresa Simon, Pal Pierce

In addition to 23 Torrance beauties, Miss USA, and Miss Torrance of 1952, the "Miss Torrance" contest to be held this coming Tuesday night at the Civic Auditorium will feature a variety of famous professional entertainment.

Among those appearing on the program are: Margaret and Carleene Weeding, marimba artists; Dorothy Dallas, soprano; Dorothy Stafford, violinist, and a professional dance team, according to W. E. Bowen, president of the sponsoring Torrance Area Youth Band.

The climax of the evening will be the crowning of Miss Torrance of 1953. Myrna Hansen, Miss U.S.A. and second to Miss France, winner of the Miss Universe Contest in Long Beach, will be here to take the crown from the head of Shirley White, Miss Torrance of 1952, and place it on the new queen, whoever she will be.

Tickets to the contest may be obtained from any of the contestants till the date of the contest, according to James Van Dyck, director of the Torrance Area Youth Band.

Among those judging the contest will be Oscar Meinhardt, executive producer of the Miss Universe Pageant; Barbara Blakeley, beauty consultant to the Miss Universe Pageant; and Paul Masterson, International Disc Jockey, Bowen stated.

A coronation ball will follow Saturday night, August 22, at the Club Alondra on Prairie Ave. just north of Redondo Beach Blvd. Separate tickets will be sold for that event.

Twenty-three contestants are entered at the final count. There were 24 girls last week but one dropped out.

Prizes will include an all-expense-paid week-end trip to Las Vegas, via Western Air Lines, with accommodations at the famous Thunderbird Hotel. The free trip will also be free to the queen's chaperone.

Other prizes for the queen and her runners-up include a bathing suit, a pair of DeLiso Deb shoes, and an album of popular records contributed by local merchants.

POSTOFFICE OFFICIALS HERE DRAW HEAVY FIRE City Stops Builders



THE RESCUE... Scoutmaster James McMillen "volunteered" to help his scouts re-enact the rescue of a fisherman from drowning in Kern River. Albert Wicker, 11, retrieved the rod and Wentzel Smith, 11, and Jon Sineck, 12, stood by on shore to receive the dripping form of the fisherman. In the meantime Mike Gibson and Dennis Holmes dashed into the water, clothes and all.

Hurl Charges at Local Officials

Trouble which has been brewing for some time between management and employees in the local postoffice, has finally come into the open this week.

Rumors were current in Torrance today that an investigation of the Torrance postoffice has been ordered by the Postoffice Department, as a result of complaints filed by individuals and a letter carriers association.

While local officials are mum on the situation, it is reported that the investigation will deal with charges of inefficiency, mismanagement, partiality in making promotions, handling of the registry, failure to adjust routes, and use of government workers on private tasks during working hours, and slow distribution of the mail.

Letter

It is known that a letter from the department resulted in a hastily called meeting of the letter carriers and clerks last week in which the association members are reported to have "repeated" the reputation of a complaint made to the department by a person whose identity could not immediately be determined. It was reported that an officer of the letter carriers group had written

(Continued on Page 2)

Fisherman Rescued by Boy Scouts

While scouts usually have a pretty exciting time on their camping trips, five scouts of Troop 721 had just a share more of it on a recent trip to the Sequoia National Forest.

True adventure was in store for the five as they were on their way to the Kern River for cooking water.

Scream

Suddenly they heard the terrorized scream of a woman and they realized that her husband, who had been fishing from the rocks, had fallen into the swiftly churning water.

Not giving the matter a moment's thought, the five flew in the direction of the river.

In a matter of seconds, Mike Gibson, 12, and Dennis Holmes, 12,

(Continued on Page 2)

Expected Accident Occurs

A young boy was hit by a car Saturday afternoon and allegedly thrown 50 feet while crossing the highway near the Alondra Park swimming pool on Redondo Beach Blvd. and Yukon.

Ronald Varieur, 8, of 834 3rd St., Hermosa Beach, was sent to the Magnolia Hospital in Long Beach with a broken femur and multiple abrasions as a result of being struck by a car driven by William Radoff, 41, 2204 Patricia Ave., West Los Angeles.

As Ronnie crossed the highway, all other cars but one stopped for him. Neither the boy nor Radoff saw the other when the accident occurred.

A person near the scene of the accident said she saw and yet did not see what happened. It was like a mirage, she said. At one moment she thought she saw the boy and at the next he had disappeared. Then she saw the boy lying there "like a wet rag."

Radoff was not speeding. He was released but cited for failure to stop for a pedestrian.

THIS COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED

An accident has occurred at the Alondra Park swimming pool crossing. A child has been seriously hurt.

Isn't this sufficient proof, Supervisor Chace, that a signal is needed at the Yukon and Redondo Beach intersection or will you need more "evidence"?

An eight-year old boy was struck by a car and dragged about fifty feet last Saturday. The driver did not see the boy as he crossed the highway.

The Torrance Press pointed out this hazard for you to remedy, Supervisor Chace, and we feel that you have failed in fulfilling your responsibility to prevent accidents that CAN BE avoided.

We told you that there are 2,000 children who use the pool daily during the peak of the season. We told you that we anticipated trouble from the uncontrolled traffic swooshing past there unless the situation were remedied quickly.

You ordered that an investigation be conducted. Can you take refuge behind the findings of the investigation?

Can you, Mr. Newton, as county representative in this area, and you, Mr. Laugharn, as assistant field deputy, and you, gentlemen of the County Road Department comfort the parents of eight-year-old Ronald Varieur with your statistics?

Your committee stated that signals at Crenshaw and Prairie would regulate the traffic. The stop signs at these corners did not prevent Ronnie's accident.

You recommended the use of the existing cross-walk for safety reasons. Ronnie was struck in that very cross-walk.

You talk about averages, but you'll find it awfully hard to explain the exceptions, especially to the parents of the child who got hurt.

You take satisfaction in the fact that your investigation showed that motorists were granting pedestrians the right-of-way. While all other motorists stopped Saturday, one motorist did not and a boy was seriously injured.

You are pleased to note that drivers were observing the speed limit. Observation of the speed limit did not prevent a car from striking a boy and throwing him fifty feet.

Are you going to wait till the next child is killed?

DISPUTE MAY END IN COURT

Following a heated hearing of the controversial Hollywood Riviera construction case, the City Council voted unanimously to deny the submitted tract map Tuesday night, in conformity with a Planning Commission recommendation.

The Don-Ja-Ran Construction Co. request for approval was denied on the grounds that the tract does not conform with the city ordinance regulating subdivisions (437) and the resolution adopting subdivision standards (1935). The motion, which was made by Councilman Willys Blount and seconded by Councilman Harvey Spelman was unanimously adopted by the Council.

Franklin W. Peck, attorney for Louis B. Mayer, owner of the property, stated that the case may be taken to the superior court. Such a hearing could be concluded within 90 days but it could stretch out to a year.

The attorney declared that the matter had assumed political aspects now instead of legal aspects. Torrance, he said, has a reputation for bad construction policies and is one of the worst of such offenders.

Arbitrary Provisions

Peck stated that the bone of contention did not center around two arbitrary provisions in the resolution. The one says that construction must conform to the existing conditions "as far as practicable." The other provision says that grades must not exceed ten per cent "unless approved by the City Engineer."

The crux of the matter is that people in the Hollywood Riviera simply don't want a subdivision, Peck said.

Pro and Con

Hollywood Riviera residents argued that it was practicable to lay out the area under discussion on a contour basis. Spokesmen for the subdivider said it was not. Residents also argued that the subdivision tract map calls for grades in excess of the 10% maximum permitted by the city. Construction spokesmen replied that the tract map had received approval of the assistant city engineer, which was the alternative permitted by the resolution.

Experts

Peck and Donald Armstrong, attorney for George Wright, subdivider, paraded a long line of experts before the City Council whose testimony centered around

(Continued on Page 3)

Plan Transformation Of Bixby Slough Area

Converting Bixby Slough into a major park was one step closer to realization this week.

An important step was taken this week when representatives of the city, county, and state met in the offices of Council President John Gibson.

With the Board of Education and the city already owning approximately half of the 464-acre slough area, agreement was reached to immediately start condemnation proceedings to acquire the remaining 235 acres.

Coordinator

George Hjelte, general manager of the Municipal Recreation and Parks Department, was named as a coordinator to channel efforts of all government agencies interested in the park.

Available Funds

It was established that the city has \$100,000 immediately to apply to the new project, the county \$50,000 and the State Wild Life Conservation Board \$100,000. The County Flood Control District has already earmarked \$800,000 for necessary storm-drain work in the area. Representatives of the Wild Life Conservation Board declared that the new lake would be suitable for several varieties of fish.

When finally finished Bixby Park, in addition to a 120-acre lake is scheduled to be the site of a junior high school, golf course and other facilities.

The area to be developed is bounded by Pacific Coast Highway, Vermont Ave., Anaheim St. and the route of the new Harbor Freeway.



EAGER TO GET AT THE CAKE... which they have baked for the Walteria playground cake contest held last Friday are the following youngsters (left to right): Candy Oreskovich, 9; Elene Pestoff, 12; Linda Donica, 10; Shirley Hinesley, 12; Linda Baker, 12; Pete Swart, 9; Miss Ann Stephens, director; La Dean Laury, 10; Diane Laury, 7; Betty Lundgren, 8; Butch Donica, 8; Sandra Osborne, 10; and John Cooper, 6 1/2.

Hidden Note Ends Green Carpet Case

There has not been anything so intriguing recently as the case of the Green Carpet.

E. C. Burry of 2228 Redbeu waited expectantly in his room, wondering if the brief notice which he had hidden among the numerous notices on the classified page would reach the "right" person.

The notice concerned a "Green Carpet."

A man called and Burry knew from his tone of voice that here was the right person.

"Come over and see it," Burry said softly.

The stranger came to Burry's home and disappeared and the Green Carpet disappeared with him.

Burry had placed the following ad with the Torrance Press Classified:

FOR SALE: GREEN CARPET, 7'x8' & pad, \$12. Good cond. FR. 3-6293.

The mystery as to who would buy the Green Carpet was solved instantaneously by placing an ad with the Torrance Press. Your problem need not be a mystery for long.

Contract Solution Reached

Clerks of retail stores of the Harbor Area affected by the Mercantile Agreement of Retail Clerks Local 905 will be paid 2 1/2 cents per hour more, effective August 1, 1953, as a result of settlement of the contract.

The \$1.00 per 40-hour week increase was agreed upon by the

(Continued on Page 3)

HOMECOMING DINNER FOR KING DELAYED

Gordon Lewis, president of the Torrance Democrats, Inc., received a letter from Congressman Cecil King that he would not be able to be here for the Homecoming Dinner scheduled for August 29. King suggested October 10 as a better date which date was accepted by the group.

(Continued on Page 2)



JOINING THE CARSON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE installation of officers last Monday were Assemblyman Vincent Thomas (right) and Supervisor Burton W. Chace. Alex Wysocki (left) stands next to Lloyd Desmond who was installed by president Chace. Other officers installed were David M. Egan, vice-president; L. O. Griffiths, vice-president; Thomas I. Johnson, secretary; and John D. Calas, treasurer.

BIXBY SLOUGH RECREATION CENTER A REALITY

(Continued on Page 2)