

THOUSANDS EXPECTED TO ATTEND TORRANCE COMMUNITY FAIR and RODEO

In one of the most colorful ceremonies ever seen in Torrance, Miss Virginia Gotts was crowned as "Miss Community Fair" by NBC-TV star Jack Owens last evening, marking the highlight of the opening of the Torrance Community Fair and Rodeo, which is scheduled to run Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday of this week at Western ave. and 220th st. in Torrance.

Virginia Gotts, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gotts of Torrance, was sponsored by the Torrance Lion's club. Some of the prizes that Miss Gotts will receive are a trip for two to beautiful Mexico City, a make-up kit, courtesy of "Lilyan-Lee" of Long Beach, and an evening at Hollywood's famous "Moulin Rouge."

Friday night will be Western Jamboree night on the stage at the fair, starring the NBC-TV star, Douglas Kennedy, star in the role of Steve Donovan, in the "Western Marshal", adventure epic.

Kiddie Matinee

Saturday with the Fair opening at 12 noon, the Junior Chamber of

Commerce, sponsors of the fair, will host a "Kiddie's Matinee" starting off with a thousand free rides and presenting a special stage show featuring TV star Buck Sureshot, and winding up a happy day by awarding two bicycles to two lucky kids in the audience.

The Saturday night show will be sparked by the appearance of one of the southland's most famous magicians, "Ken" Bickford, who deftly fools you and makes you like it, followed by "Johnson & Johnson" in a show guaranteed to provide a barrel full of belly laffs.

Sunday, the final day of the Fair, gates again will open at 12 noon and feature a day of fun and thrills with a special 1 p.m. stage show featuring the juvenile talent of Torrance and surrounding area.

Rodeo

Rodeo matinees are set for Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. sponsored by (Turn to Page 20)



MISS COMMUNITY FAIR, Virginia Gotts, 17, Lions club candidate, receives her official crown from Mayor Albert Isen. She, and the two runners up, Mitzi Trimiew, JayCettes, (l), and Norma Prange, North Torrance Civic Improvement association, will spend an evening at the world-famous Moulin Rouge in Hollywood, among other things.

TORRANCE PRESS

10¢

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

VOL. VII 1 2 THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1955 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA NO. 14

Large Majority Favors Rabies Law at Hearing

SERVICE STATION ROBBED

Three armed bandits held up a service station during the early hours Monday morning, after first asking the attendant for directions to a certain street and then returning 20 minutes later for the robbery.

Victim of the robbery is Clifford Howard, 28, attendant of the Mobile service station, 174th street and Hawthorne, according to investigating officers, D. H. Cook and Melvin Bennett.

The bandits took about \$100 in cash.

"How do you get to Manchester?" one suspect asked the first time. The car then took off, but returned about 20 minutes later.

After telling Howard to "fill 'er up" with \$2 worth of gas, one suspect pulled a gun on him and said,

"Let's have the cash. Don't move fast."

The other two bandits also kept him covered with guns sticking out of the car window. In addition to the money, the bandits took keys and several credit cards.

Howard said the driver wiped his head and stated,

"This sure is a h... of a way to make a living."



ANTI-RABIES shots never bothered "Shayms" (Seamas O'Sean of Skyline), a thoroughbred Irish wolfhound owned by Mrs. John Ryland, 18033 Faysmith. In fact, the dog valued at more than \$1000 receives double doses because of his size (37", 165 lbs.). The Rylands, who have three children, are doubly glad he had his shots, since they live in North Torrance, center of the recent rabies outbreak.

COUNCIL CHAMBER FILLED TO CAPACITY

An overwhelming majority of Torrance residents, went on record in writing and in person as favoring a compulsory anti-rabies vaccination law for dogs, it was revealed at a public hearing before the City Council Tuesday night.

A count of petitions, individual letters, Torrance Press coupons, and actual individuals attending the meeting indicated more than 650 in favor of the measure as against about 25 opposed to it.

Abiding by strictly formal rules of debate, Mayor Albert Isen and members of the Council permitted 9 individuals to speak in favor of the ordinance; 11 to speak against it; and then a short rebuttal by two individuals favoring the ordinance.

The debate, intended for one hour, lasted closer to two hours. Mayor Isen asked Torrance residents to speak before granting individuals from outside the city of Torrance the privilege to be heard.

Arguments and individuals speaking for and against the ordinance were as follows:

For

Dr. Kurt Shery, M. D., 1104 Sartori, Torrance, and on the staff of the Torrance Memorial hospital, spoke in rebuttal.

"During the period between January and June of this year, 18 individuals received Pasteur treatment which is potentially dangerous," Dr. Shery said.

Commenting upon the effectiveness of rabies shots for dogs he said that there is no question that any vaccine offers some danger. "But if there is a chance to protect 80 out of 100," he said, "I would rather take that chance than have no chance at all."

Refuting the opposition's claim that there has been no rabies death in Torrance, he cited the case of a 5-year-old girl, who died in the Torrance area February 26, 1939, six hours after being admitted to the hospital. She was bitten by a rabid dog.

Not A Single Case
Citing the effectiveness and harmlessness of anti-rabies shots for dogs, Dr. Shery mentioned Covina which has had such a law since 1949 without one single case of rabies, animal or human.

The Ohio Supreme Court, he (Turn to Page 20)

Against

Two major spokesmen opposing the law were Rita Delmar, legislative representative of Humane Affiliates, and Estelle Taylor, of the Los Angeles Animal Regulations Commission and the Southern California Pet Owners League. Both were ardent and outspoken opponents of such a law in Los Angeles and other communities.

Miss Taylor, who began by rapping the knuckles of the audience, figuratively speaking, for having laughed at some statements made by her side, was asked to confine herself to the facts by Mayor Isen.

"The people have a right to laugh or do anything they want," she said.

One-Sided Story
"Our side has not been in the press," Miss Taylor began, charging that local residents have been "brainwashed."

She claimed that adequate pound personnel could cope with the rabies issue. As it is, she said, they do not have enough help to pick up stray dogs.

"Enforcing the rabies law would be even harder," she maintained.

"Dr. Thienes says rabies is (Turn to Page 20)

City Plans New Census; 65,000 Population Seen

Another city census, expected to place the Torrance population at 65,000, is expected in the fall. The last census, taken in 1953, placed the population at 45,000.

City Manager George Stevens told the Council that he might just have gotten in under the wire since he heard that only one more city was eligible in this area for such a census this year.

Robbery Suspect, Father of 4, Blames Gambling

A father of four children, who said he stole in order to pay off gambling debts, was arrested on charges of armed robbery early Tuesday morning.

The man, a carpet-layer by trade, was taken into custody after the victim of an attempted hold-up in Los Angeles noted the license number of the suspect's car.

Arrested was Charles V. Peterson, 35, of 924 Belton street, in the Carson area. Peterson admitted holding up four liquor stores in Wilmington, Carson, and Los Angeles, but said he only pretended to be wielding a gun, according to Det. A. R. Sage, of the San Pedro police department.

"I started stealing when I lost money playing cards at Gardena," Peterson was quoted as saying. He said he lost \$1500 while gambling in Gardena poker dens.

Peterson claimed to be months behind in his payment on his home and that other bills were piling up.

The suspect got away with a total of \$310. He denied using a gun, stating, "I always put my right hand in my coat pocket to make it look like I had one (a gun)."

C. Of C. Institute
Chamber Manager Tom V. Watson was authorized to attend the Western Institute for Chamber of Commerce executives at Stanford University for the week of July 17-23.

Stevens, upon hearing this at a meeting of city managers in Pasadena, sent a special delivery air mail letter to Washington, D. C.

"We'll probably get it," Stevens told the Council Tuesday night.

Every new resident qualifies Torrance to receive \$6 to \$7, Stevens said. Increase in population since the last special census here in 1953 amounts to 20,000 people, Stevens estimated.

Cost of the census would come to around \$10,000, he said.

Woman Hurt In 3-Car Collision

Suffering serious back and neck injuries in a three-car collision at Pacific Coast highway and Eshelman Friday evening was Margarete V. Shanahan, 26, of 1522 West Lomita ave., Harbor City.

An auto driven by Marvin White of Chicago rammed into the rear of her car, according to California Highway Patrol. The impact forced her auto into one driven by George G. Lewis, 29, of Beverly Hills, which was stopped at a signal.

The injured woman was taken to San Pedro Community hospital.



"SWEETHEARTS" ... a picture taken by 13-year-old Dennis Bullock of 1323 Teri ave. is the fifth finalist in the Torrance Press photo contest. Dennis used a 35 mm. Kodak.

Pint-Sized Annexation Until the Last Minute Headache

Another annexation headache, junior version, appears to be facing Torrance.

The City Council last night approved that steps be taken for the annexation of part of the Victor tract bordered by Henrietta, Redondo Beach boundaries, Torrance boulevard and Del Amo boulevard.

Having gotten wind of this move, Redondo Beach City (Turn to Page 20)

EDITORIAL Until the Last Minute

Now that the rabies hearing is over, the next and final step is a vote on the issue by the members of the City Council.

The date for this has been set for July 26, which is an 8 p.m. meeting.

On the basis of the showing made, it looks as if we may expect favorable action by the City Council. However, we must not take any chances and must exert every effort until the very last minute.

We know that the opposition will try everything possible to scuttle this issue.

We, therefore, urge everyone favoring such a law to continue petitioning and writing to the City Council, City Hall, Torrance.

Construction Starts Soon On Civic Center

Torrance can expect to have its new civic center ready by spring of next year, according to City Engineer George Stevens.

Bids were opened Tuesday night, and will be awarded next week. Once the contracts are signed, work will begin within 30 days. The construction will take about eight months, it was stated.

Seven bids were received on the combination City Hall and police station project. Low bidder was the Harwick & Son Construction company, with a sum of \$521,328. The city engineer estimated the cost of the project at \$550,000.

A special contract for cabinet work in the city hall and police station was bid on by three firms, with a low bid of \$21,272.75, submitted by the California Church Furniture company of Hollywood.

Five bids were entered on a contract for construction of a bath house and swimming pool which was estimated to cost

\$200,000. All bids were over the estimate, with the low bid submitted by the firm of Walker & Murphy in the amount of \$243,785.

Bids on four separate park improvement projects were entered by three firms. Low bidder on the work to be done at El Retiro, McMaster, Seaside and Walteria parks was the Albert F. Anderson Construction company of Los Angeles in the amount of \$134,162.81.

The council also opened bids on two improvement districts, including the Del Amo boulevard paving project and the 239th street sewer district. Low

bidder on the Del Amo job was the S. A. Cummings Construction company of Compton with a bid of \$11,280.60. A low bid on the sewer project was submitted by the Wucetich Construction company of Paramount at \$22,393.18. Both were below city engineer estimates.

Reichard Named to Engineer Post

E. S. Reichard, 1303 Ridge Lane, has been promoted to the position of assistant electrical engineer at the Torrance refinery of General Petroleum Corporation.

One More Week in Press Photo Contest

Humor is the keynote of this week's finalist in the Torrance Press photo contest, the winning picture, "Sweethearts," exhibiting the antics of two chimpanzees. The photo was taken by 13-year-old Dennis Bullock of 1323 Teri avenue, Torrance, with a 35 mm Kodak.

One more week remains in the annual photo contest. All pictures must be in the Torrance Press office, 1406 Cravens avenue, by Monday, July 18, at 4:30 p.m.

Pictures may be brought in or mailed.

Any individual living within the circulation area of the Torrance Press may still enter the contest unless his picture has already been chosen as one of the finalists.

Prizes

At the end of the contest, the following six prizes will be given away:

First place, \$50 cash awarded by the Torrance Press.

Second place, A Kodak DeLuxe Dual-Flex Camera kit worth \$31.95, awarded by A-1 Photo Service, 1318 Sartori.

Third place, \$15 in photographic supplies given by Photo Arts Studio, 1311 Post avenue.

Fourth, fifth, and sixth place, a \$5 cash prize each, donated (Turn to Page 20)