

BOY KILLED IN FALL FROM TREE

2 Brothers At Scene Of Accident

A ten-year-old boy, who had been building tree houses regularly in a row of trees near Ladeene and Sepulveda with a number of friends, plunged 20 feet to his death Sunday, according to reports.

Charles Leroy Cleveland Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Cleveland, 4619 Avenue C, Torrance, died apparently of a broken neck and multiple injuries at Harbor General hospital.

The accident occurred late Sunday afternoon while "Punkie" as he was known, was playing around in the tree with two of his brothers.

Brothers Race Home
Racing home to their mother, the two boys exclaimed:

"Punkie fell out of a tree!"
At the same time, a passerby, who saw the boy, also arrived.

"You better come immediately," he said, "we've called an ambulance. He's been hurt!"

The father was out of town at the time the accident happened and did not find out about it until he returned about midnight, Mrs. Cleveland stated.

Cleveland is self-employed and owns the South Bay Drilling company in Lawndale.

Played In Trees
"The children always played in the trees," Mrs. Cleveland mused. "There's a whole row of trees there and they build tree houses—one week it's this tree and next week it's another tree, Punkie was a very good acrobat—he held the title for two or three stunts on the acrobatic bars at Seaside school."

Services for the boy were held yesterday at White and Day Colonial chapel.

He is survived by his parents; five brothers, Howard, 8; Ray Allen, 5; Mikey, 3; Denny, 18 months; Timothy, 9 months; and a sister, Beverly, 6.

Grandparents of the boy, Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Salmon, flew out here from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The Clevelands have lived here 2½ years.

Enrollment Peak Hits New High

High school enrollment will hit a new peak in Torrance this fall with the opening of North high school located at 3620 West 182nd Street (near Yukon avenue). Over 2500 students will enter high school in Torrance with the beginning of classes September 14.

Breakdown of students between the two high schools will be as follows: Torrance high school: Freshmen 260; Sophomores 410, Juniors 380, Seniors 310, total 1360.

North high school: Freshmen 610, Sophomores 240, Juniors 180, Seniors 130, total 1160, for a grand total of 2520.

The opening of North high school will relieve overcrowded conditions that resulted in a double session last year. Each student will carry a full schedule of six periods per day. Periods will be 55 minutes long with a 5 minute passing period between classes.



WINS SAFETY AWARD: The highest recognition obtainable for an outstanding safety record was made to General Petroleum corporation yesterday by the National Safety Council with the presentation to president Robert L. Minckler, (right) of the Award of Honor. Minckler is shown congratulating John McKenzie (left) head of the company's safety department. The plaque was presented by vice-president Max A. Koffman (center) of the safety group in recognition of General Petroleum's unparalleled record in the seven western states. The Mobilgas company set the best safety record of any oil producing and marketing firm on the Pacific Coast.

- SERVING:**
- TORRANCE
 - LOMITA
 - HARBOR CITY
 - WALTERIA
 - CARSON
 - AVALON VILLAGE
 - EL NIDO

TORRANCE PRESS

10¢

The Largest Circulation Newspaper in Torrance 1406 Cravens Ave., FA. 8-2345

VOL. VII

I ■ 2 ■

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 1955 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

NO. 20

BASEBALL STAR OUT \$9000 IN CHECKS

Paul Pettit of Lomita, who collected a \$100,000 baseball bonus several years ago, was out \$9000 in a bad check scheme which ended in a one to 14-year term in state prison for a Lomita used car dealer.

Pettit, of 2319 W. 247th st., Lomita, was victimized by George N. Shahood, 32, who gave him bad checks totaling \$9000, according to Shahood's probation report.

Superior Judge Joseph M. Maltby refused probation last week Thursday for Shahood and sent the car dealer to prison on charges of grand theft and writing a check without sufficient funds.

Pettit, who pitched for Pittsburgh and Hollywood, told San Pedro police he became acquainted with Shahood, 25616 Reed Dr., Lomita, after the dealer had sold a car for him early this year.

The ballplayer, now in the Mexican League, said Shahood bought toys for his children and eventually interested him in the business of buying and selling cars. Pettit loaned him \$4,000 to start.

Whenever Shahood sold a car, he made the check out to Pettit and instructed him to deposit it in the ballplayer's bank account, according to police reports.

Pettit would then withdraw the same amount in cash so that he could split the profit on the car transaction with Shahood.

During the month of April, Pettit deposited 13 checks, ranging from \$75 to \$1,460, before learning the checks were worthless, he told police.

REZONING: Rezoning of Crenshaw boulevard from R-2 to C-2 was approved by the City Council Tuesday night at a third and final hearing. Area involved includes both sides of Crenshaw between Sierra street and Monterey avenue. The Council overruled Planning Commission's recommendation for a restricted commercial zoning and holding up the matter until the street is widened.

HOTEL: Request for the Council's view on construction of a hotel similar to Santa Ynez Inn or the Bel Air Hotel to be located at the ocean bluff where Hollywood Riviera runs into Palos Verdes was made by Norman Stern, attorney for the H. R. Peerless Building corporation and Don Ja Ran. Stern was advised to approach the Planning Commission.

NAME CHANGE: A public hearing was called to consider changing the name of 174th street to Arcadia boulevard as requested by the Los Angeles Regional Planning Commission. Hearing was set for September 13, at 8 p.m. in the Torrance City Hall.

WALTERIA LAKE: Council approved designation of Walteria Lake as a drainage basin. This approval does not necessarily mean that an assessment district for the basin would be formed. It simply keeps the area from being used for anything else.

SHOPPING CENTER: Public hearing has been set for September 13 at 8 p.m. in the Torrance City Hall on request for a zone change for a new shopping center. Plans call for a market, drug store, medical building, bank, and 1000-car parking lot. Location is northeast of 164th street and Crenshaw boulevard. Neville Redmon made the request for his (Turn to Page 7)

Man Tries Suicide—No Gas!

Credited with saving the life of a 31-year-old Lomita man who tried to commit suicide was the fact that his car ran out of gas.

The man apparently attempted to commit suicide by carbon monoxide poisoning Tuesday night after his wife filed divorce proceedings against him.

Sheriff's deputies found the man in a semi-conscious condition in his car at Narbonne (Turn to Page 7)

Two Foreign Exchange Students Arrive Today

The new officers of the Torrance chapter of the American Field Service International Scholarships are planning a reception for the foreign students who will be attending school in Torrance this year.

Arno Mehling, one of the students who arrived recently is at present vacationing with his new family, Mr. and Mrs. J. Melville, at Catalina Island.

Two of the students arrived at 7 a.m. this morning at the Burbank airport. They are Gloria Montesinas, who will make her home with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lane, 1531 El Prado; and Adrian Willemssen, whose new family will be Mr. and Mrs. F. Stoeckle, 2612 West 175th street. Gloria will attend Torrance High school and Adrian or "Arny," as he likes to be called, will attend North Torrance high.

The new officers of the chapter were installed recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. Van Deventer, 2203 Carson street. They are Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Mosley, chairman; Mr. and Mrs. C. Harris, corresponding secretary; Mr. and Mrs. E. Moon, recording secretary; Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Nash, home placement; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Graef, ways and means; Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Turner, treasurer and Mr. and Mrs. C. M.

One Vote Can Change This!

Editorial

AN OPEN LETTER TO 3 COUNCILMEN

This is an open letter to three Torrance councilmen: the Honorable Mervin M. Schwab, Nickolas O. Drale, and Willys G. Blount.

It is an appeal for "the third vote." Several weeks ago the Torrance City Council defeated a rabies law by a vote of 3-2. We believe that events which have occurred since then warrant a reconsideration of the issue.

Manhattan Beach City Council last week passed a rabies law unanimously. Hermosa Beach City Council did likewise this week. Redondo Beach City Council, which only recently opposed the law, is reconsidering its stand as a result of powerful public sentiment in favor of the law.

That leaves Torrance as the weakest link in the South Bay security chain against rabies.

Leash Law Ineffective
And there is evidence already that the leash law is not working the magic that was claimed for it.

Only last week another child was bitten on the lip by a neighbor's dog and Pasteur treatment had to be started immediately because of the dangerous location of the bite.

Had the dog been vaccinated against rabies, this treatment would not have been necessary.

The leash law, it will become more and more obvious, is inadequate by itself. It requires enforcement 24 hours a day, 365 days out of the year, and over a vast territory.

Dogs running loose have a way of suddenly becoming attached to a leash the moment it is rumored that the dog catcher is coming.

That leaves the dog catcher helpless to enforce the law. But he would not have this problem with the rabies law. Either a dog has had its rabies shot or it has not—there is nothing arbitrary about that.

As regards the cost of vaccination, the Council should fully make every effort to secure a minimum charge.

Dual Responsibility
It is a matter of sheer common sense that people who have dogs have a responsibility towards their pet's welfare.

At the same time, they have a responsibility to protect their neighbors and their community from their animals.

That is why compulsory rabies shots are not discriminatory, but mandatory.

What is discriminatory and the height of irresponsibility is to subject innocent individuals to the pain, cost, and danger of Pasteur treatment.

And, in the light of these circumstances, we are asking the above three councilmen to reconsider their stand. It would take only one vote change to reintroduce the rabies ordinance before the City Council and assure its passage.

We feel sure that the people will have a greater admiration for the councilman who honestly and bravely reconsiders his stand, than to stand pat on a wrong decision.



IN EFFECT BUT NOT EFFECTIVE . . . While the leash law is in effect, it is hardly effective in combatting the danger of rabies. Dogs are still biting and people must still take Pasteur treatment. Lance Schaus, 8, of 18802 Cordary, Torrance, was bitten on the lip by a boxer owned by Bob Crompton, 18908 Cordary. Since the dog had not been vaccinated against rabies, and it was not known whether it had the disease, and since the bite was so close to the brain, Pasteur treatment was begun immediately. A full course of the treatment costs \$119. Compulsory rabies shots cost anywhere, from 35 cents to \$3. Giving Lance his shot is Dr. Donald R. Tompkins, with Nurse Bea Campbell.

PLANE CRASH VICTIM DIES

Mrs. Myrtle Jan Kirby, 35, of 5420 Linda dr., Torrance, who received critical burns over 80 per cent of her body last week when she was involved in a plane crash, died Monday night at Brooks Army hospital, San Antonio, Texas.

Red Cross attempts to save her life by rushing 15 pints of blood, to her by plane last week proved to no avail. Of the 15 pints, 11 were donated by employees at the Mayfair Creamery co.

Lieut. Kirby was one of two CAP fliers seriously injured when their CAP monoplane struck a flagpole at county fire station No. 56, Rolling Hills, August 13, during air rescue maneuvers.

Mrs. Kirby is survived by her husband, John J. Kirby, and two children John, 8, and Jackie, 2. Her mother, who lives in Santa Ana, has been taking care of the children in Mrs. Kirby's absence.

With Mrs. Kirby in the monoplane was CAP Major Davis C. Cochran, who is recovering from cuts and burns at March Air Force Base, Riverside.

Immediately following the August 13 crash, Mrs. Kirby was flown to San Antonio in an iron-lung type apparatus for special treatment.

Services were scheduled to be held in Redondo Beach.

Her Pooch Was Really In Demand

It seems as if everybody read this little ad about a little dog looking for a home.

At least that is the impression which Mrs. Robert Woodrum of 4331 W. 230th st., had after she placed the following ad in the Torrance Press:

LOVABLE male, red full grown cocker. Free to home with fenced yard. Loves children. FR. 5-1001

"I was just swamped with calls from all over," she exclaimed. "I couldn't believe that so many people would call. Everybody was eager to get the little dog. We found just the right home for him."

for the doggonest results, call FA. 8-2345 and you'll discover that placing a classified ad in the Torrance Press is quick, efficient, and inexpensive.

Breaks Arm In Fall From Tree

An 8-year-old boy, Thomas Panagos of Los Angeles, fell out of a tree and broke his arm in two places at Torrance park Sunday, according to Torrance police reports.

Report On Rabies Laws Given Council

The somewhat sensitive rabies issue made a brief and timid appearance at Tuesday night's Council meeting when Mayor Albert Isen saw fit to give a progressive report on recent developments.

"The rest of you gentlemen, I am sure, are as interested as I am in the rabies law program." (Turn to Page 7)

High Praise Given Guard Unit During Encampment

Despite a merciless, blistering sun which beats down relentlessly during the day, and the chilly night which causes men to dig into their covers, members of the Torrance unit of the National Guard now encamping at Camp Roberts are giving an admirable account of themselves.



Most of them are raw recruits, yet they are adapting themselves to the grueling intensive training and simulated battle conditions with an eagerness and earnestness which brought unanimously high praise from officers and non-commissioned officers alike Saturday.

Torrance's Company E of the 132nd Armored Engineer battalion represents a part of California's 40th Armored division, whose 5500 men and officers are on two-week summer maneuvers at Camp Roberts.

Governor's Day
Hundreds of visitors, including scores of high ranking civilian and military dignitaries, watched Saturday as the 40th Armored Division paraded its might before its commander-in-chief, Gov. Goodwin J. Knight, at Governor's Day ceremonies.

Honor guests included Maj. Gen. Earle M. Jones, California's adjutant general; Maj. Gen. E. K. Wright, commanding general of the 6th Infantry Division at Fort Ord, and numerous state assemblymen and senators, and ranking military figures.

Official host to the governor and other dignitaries at a luncheon held after the review was Maj. Gen. Homer O. Eaton, Jr., 40th commander.

A special Mayor's Day, honoring Torrance's mayor Albert Isen, was held Thursday, August 18. Mayor Isen was accompanied by George Powell, secretary to the Planning Commission.

Mayor Made Prisoner
An unscheduled but amusing episode occurred when the two, accompanied by Capt. D. J. Horlander, commander of the local guard unit, were halted during a night inspection tour of a field problem after making a (Turn to Page 7)