

# COUNCIL CALLS FOR CITY-WIDE SURVEY OF SPEED LIMITS AS CAR KILLS 2-YEAR-OLD

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## TORRANCE PRESS

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

VOL. VII 1 2 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1956 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA NO. 45

### City Council Applies for Free \$190,000 Museum

The Torrance City Council this week showed a keen interest in a \$140,000 mineral, crystal, and gem collection plus \$50,000 for building purposes being offered to the "right" community by a retired mining engineer.

Douglas Brown, of Shell Beach, San Luis Obispo county, is anxious to find a community which will appreciate his minerals, and made a public announcement of his offer last week.

While scouring through the Sunday paper Mayor Albert Isen's eye lit on the item and he contacted Brown immediately on behalf of Torrance.

The council Tuesday night moved concurrence with the mayor's thinking and indicated that the museum could be placed on the civic center.

Brown stated that he has \$50,000 he will give away to the community which will provide land meeting his approval for the construction of such a museum.

He was director of the Washington State Chamber of Mines, and at one time president of Mid-Coast Mineral society.

He values the family collection at \$100,000 and his own collection at between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

Brown said he would provide custodianship for five years, after which time he hoped the museum would acquire enough community, State, Federal or foundation support to expand its purpose.

### Enthusiasm Fires YMCA Fund Drive

Determined to breathe renewed life and vigor into the local YMCA, fund drive workers are exerting unprecedented efforts in the present campaign.

Already raised more money this year than ever before.

Total funds raised so far rose to \$9558 as officially reported last Friday, representing more than half of the \$17,000 total, according to Sam Levy, general chairman.

The industrial division, under C. C. Morgan, reported a total of \$6173 so far; the commercial division \$2253; the professional \$370, and the field organization \$360.

A victory dinner is scheduled to follow a "mop-up" week on February 29 at the YWCA building, Carson and Plaza Del Amo, Levy said.



**LITTLE GIRLS, BIG SALE . . .** Torrance Girl Scouts are selling cookies this week and through next week. Stationed at McCown's Drug store were (l-r) Luisa Beadle and Rita Ellingsworth, Brownies from Troop 1551. The cookie sale is the one fund raising activity of the year for the Girl Scouts of America, and the money raised is used to support this group dedicated to making fine citizens for the future. Press Photo.

### School Administration Stacks Cards at TEAC

A farce was made of democracy Monday when the matter of consolidating School Board and City Council elections was to be discussed at a meeting of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee.

In brief, all the facts were stacked against consolidation and in favor of keeping the two elections separate.

What happened is a perfect example, in our opinion, of the extensive iron-clad stranglehold which the top level school administration has on the Board of Education and on all aspects of the local educational scene.

To begin with, time did not permit the actual discussion of the consolidation issue as originally slated.

But there was enough indication that no attempt would be made toward an impartial investigation of the pros and cons of the issue and that the advisory group would simply be indoctrinated with the wishes of the administration.

Each one of the more than 100 representatives attending the meeting was provided with a thorough list of arguments against consolidation.

On the other hand, no such list of arguments favoring consolidation was made available.

This, in our opinion, is hardly a model of intellectual honesty.

Judging from the way other "controversial" issues have been dispatched with in the past at TEAC meetings, we are strongly convinced that the consolidation issue would have met a similar swift and placid death.

For the sake of those who were never informed of the other side of the story, we would herewith like to list a number of reasons why consolidation is desirable at least for Torrance.

Democracy is based on the principle that power is safest when placed in the hands of many people rather than in the hands of a few.

That is why we have developed a system of checks and balances. Therefore, when one branch of government gobbles up another branch of government, there is cause for alarm.

That has happened with the Board of Education. It has become the tool of the top level school administration rather than the spokesmen of the people by whom it was elected.

Only by bringing the elections out of hiding will it be possible to free school board officials from a stranglehold conformity into which they have been led.

We regret that TEAC has been similarly subjugated. Our quarrel is not with its officers or its members but rather with the same top level school administration which is using TEAC as a tool for perpetuating its ideas.

To properly study the consolidation issue, an investigating committee should have been organized.

As concerns this issue, the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee serves neither in an educational nor an advisory capacity.

#### EDITORIAL

#### No Impartial Study

**FIRST . . .** A soldier and his family were the first in this area to move into one of 95 Southland dwellings being leased by the Army for Nike site personnel and their families. Moving into a new three-bedroom home at 25718 Crest road, were Sgt. Donald D. Hawkins, his wife, Harriett, and their two children, Patricia Rae, 5, and Michael Len, 4.



### LATE NEWS

**TRYOUTS: ACCENT:** Theatre! will hold tryouts for "The Tender Trap" Friday, February 24, at 8:30 p.m. at the YMCA, 2080 Washington. Tryouts are open to all interested individuals.

**CRITICAL:** A 9-year-old boy was still in critical condition at Harbor General hospital after the bicycle on which he was riding Sunday slipped on a narrow trail down the Palos Verdes cliff and he fell about 40 feet to the rocks on the beach below. He is Kelly Simms of 18824 Cerrisse ave.

**PARKING DISTRICT:** Petitions for the off-street parking assessment district will be circulated for signatures of downtown property owners by the end of this week, according to City Attorney James Hall.

**CIVIC CENTER:** City officials expect the police station to be ready for occupancy some time in June or July and the city hall around August 1.

**FLOOD CONTROL:** County officials will meet with city officials and community representatives February 28 at 9 a.m. (Turn to Page 5)

### Death of Wife, Tots Marks Violent End To Philippino's Dream

A brave little man who faced the harrowing dangers of fighting for the Philippine underground during World War II, collapsed of shock Tuesday on hearing that his wife and three children met violent death in a head-on collision.

Dead are Mrs. Blanche Haines Claudio, 1008 Flat st., Torrance, and her daughters, Emily, 3, Susan, 6 and Agnes, 11.

A fourth daughter, Diane, 8, is in critical condition, as is the driver of the other car, Allen Oscar Stevens, 29, of Hollywood.

Also dead is Mariano Sogma Macapinlae, 60, of 1103 Fedora st., Los Angeles, who befriended the Claudio family when Mrs. Claudio arrived three years ago.

**Last Milestone**  
Highway 66, 15 miles west of Barstow, marked the last milestone for the Claudio family's search for happiness in America.

California Highway Patrolmen reported the car driven by the 31-year-old Torrance mother smashed head-on into a westbound vehicle while attempting to pass another car.

Conrado collapsed in a chair and broke into violent sobs upon being informed of the tragedy at his home.

"It was just a holiday for her and the children," he moaned. Then he prayed fitfully in Spanish.

**A Dream Died**  
Conrado and his wife had struggled through the underground days together. They met and they were married. They lived the life of the hunted, hiding during the day, raiding occupied towns at night.

They were pursued by the (Turn to Page 5)

#### MARCHING SUNDAY

### Straight From the Heart — Straight to the Heart

Heart fund volunteers going from home to home will have a heart to heart talk with Torrance residents this Sunday. They will ask for money—the most powerful weapon in an all-out drive to destroy this deadly disease.

The annual Heart Sunday neighborhood collection will be held on Sunday, February 26, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. it was announced today.

Malcolm Richland, chairman of Heart Sunday for Torrance, said the collection will require a number of volunteers to give a few minutes of their time to call upon their neighbors and collect for the Heart Fund.

Volunteers who wish to assist in the Heart Sunday collection are urged to call Richland at FA. 8-0540 or FR. 5-6239 to register and receive collector's kits.

The Heart Sunday Volunteers will distribute literature on diseases of the heart and circulation, the nation's number one health problem, Richland said.

**Area Chairmen**  
Local residents have volunteered to act as area chairmen (Turn to Page 5)

### TRIAL FOR ABORTION POSTPONED

A mother-and-daughter team, accused of performing two illegal operations here last September, had their trial postponed until March 22 in Long Beach Superior court.

Leola Mae "Ma" Ramsey, 71, (of 1011 West 223rd street, and her daughter, Marguerite Reeves, 49, of 3635 West 227th street, were scheduled to appear last Monday.

The delay was granted because their attorney had another trial in progress and because Mrs. Reeves was reported (Turn to Page 5)

### Everyone's Views on Delinquency Sought

What specific juvenile delinquency problems does Torrance have? What is presently being done to solve these problems? What still needs to be done and can be done?

These are the questions which will be asked at an old-fashioned community-wide town meeting which will be held this coming week.

Every individual who is interested in the problem of juvenile delinquency is invited to attend the meeting because all the opinions will be compiled into one thorough report which will be sent to Governor Goodwin J. Knight.

That report will be studied together with similar reports from cities all over the State and a comprehensive over-all report will then be drafted (Turn to Page 5)

based on this State-wide study. The Torrance town meeting will be held Monday evening, February 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Civic Auditorium, corner Cravens and El Prado.

Everyone — teenagers or adults from every walk of life — is asked to attend this meeting in order to contribute their thoughts and opinions towards a solution to the problem. Individuals will be given a time limit so that everyone will have a chance to talk.

A lot of preliminary work has already gone into this meeting. Mayor Albert Isen, at the request of the governor, appointed an executive committee last year to make plans for the town meeting. The committee was headed by Rev. Nathan Bond and Sgt. D. C. Cook of the Torrance Police Department's Juvenile bureau.

### Little Wanderer Goes To Sleep—Forever . . .

A rash of violent traffic deaths this week caused the City Council to call for an all-out survey of traffic conditions with a view to posting proper speed limit signs throughout Torrance.

The proposal was made by Councilman Victor Benstead who called specific attention to the tragic death of a 2-year-old tot Saturday night.



DORENE ELIZABETH . . . death instead of bed

Distraught parents, who were expecting to tuck their little girl into bed as they did every night, instead found themselves standing in the cold night air bending over the limp body of their daughter, with nothing left to prepare but the funeral arrangements.

The little girl was killed by a car when she slipped away into the street instead of getting ready for bed.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Walden of 3621 West 177th street, parents of the little girl, Dorene Elizabeth, discovered that she was not in her room minutes after she apparently wandered out of the house.

The Waldens searched frantically through the house and neighborhood when they suddenly heard sirens.

They dashed to Yukon avenue near 177th street, where they found a neighbor holding their child who had been hit by a car.

The driver, Charles S. Fortune, 34, of 1719 Ponty street, told police he did not see the little girl run into the street. He said he did not realize what happened until he heard a thump and stopped his car.

The girl was pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor General hospital.

Fortune was in a state of shock, unable to drive his car from the scene. He, himself, is the father of two children. He was not held.

### His Honor Gets Ticket, Objects . . .

After all was said and done, Mayor Albert Isen still resented the fact that he was issued a ticket Saturday night for going through a boulevard stop.

The fact that the officer was a perfect gentleman and felt even quite honored at giving a ticket to his first mayor did not help matters a bit.

Isen's trip to the Lions club dinner-dance came to a sudden halt after going through a boulevard stop at Palos Verdes Drive North and Western ave.

His Honor argued with the officer that the corner was poorly lit and that the stop sign was not visible, particularly since it was blocked from view by a car in front of him.

The officer sympathized with His Honor and tried to console him with the fact that this might possibly be one way of calling attention to a condition which requires remedying.

Mayor Isen, an attorney in private life, promised to fight this thing in court.

He also remembered observing the new license plate on the car ahead of him and being struck by the humor of it.

"It said KSS," he has been explaining ever since. "You know, K-I-S-S. And underneath it, it said 'Take It Easy.'"

### First Nosey, Then Cozy, Now Rosy

"It's nice and cozy now in Torrance Bootery—and all because of a classified ad in the Torrance Press."

So stated Sol Young, owner of the shoe store, located at 1333 El Prado. Young, anxious to find a heater for his store, glanced through the Torrance Press classified section and saw the following ad placed by Mrs. O. B. Holzheuser, 22728 South Harvard:

**A REAL BARGAIN—Brand new Deaorbom circulating gas heater. FA. 8-1900**

"I always read the Press classified section for bargains," Young said. "It certainly paid off this time. Mrs. Holzheuser was happy and I was happy."

Here's evidence that Press ads have terrific readership—going into 30,000 homes. Place your inexpensive ad today—call FA. 8-2345 right now!



**A LOAD OFF HIS BACK . . .** Residents along Nick Chaykowski's route hoped to make his work easier for him by providing him with a mail-kart at a surprise presentation Monday. Mrs. Charles B. Wiley (l), manager of Calvert Apartments, 1006 Sartori, initiated the idea, collecting the necessary \$26.66 from residents along the route. She and Postmaster Clara Conner here help Chaykowski load up.—Press Photo.

# Town Meeting Monday on Juvenile Delinquency