

Torrance's Biggest Sump'

CITY COUNCIL DEMANDS ACTION ON DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL DEATH TRAP



MUNDEN, MUNDEN, MUNDEN, AND MUNDEN
Taking the oath as members of the U. S. Army Reserve, four brothers of the Munden family, 1637 W. 224th St., Torrance, are sworn-in by Lt. Col. Thomas D. Cornell, commanding officer of the 306th Radio Broadcasting and Leaflet Battalion, at Fort MacArthur. Left to right are Jack, 22, Leland, 21, Daniel, 19, and James, 17. "The Army," Col. Cornell stated, "will keep them bunked together and at the same post at all costs."—US Army Photo.

3rd Judge Urged Here By County Supervisors

Adding a third judge to the South Bay Municipal Court at Redondo Beach was recommended this week by the Board of Supervisors. He will be assigned to Torrance where a new building to house the court is to be constructed in the Civic Center.

In support of the proposed increase is a bill pending before

the current sessions of the State Legislature at Sacramento.

On the basis of findings made in a report December 31, 1956, on the state's judicial council, it was brought out that South Bay Municipal Judges John A. Shidler and Otto B. Willett each handled an average trial case load of 2031 a year, as compared to

the average of 723.

In anticipation of an increase in trial cases, additional court room facilities already have been budgeted and approved. This includes the proposed \$274,858 Torrance court.

It will be at least 10 months before any of the new judges take the bench.

Ex-Convict Claims Cash

An ex-convict claimed this week that money taken from him during the course of a robbery arrest was his rather than part of the \$30,000 which were stolen.

A jury in Los Angeles Superior Court decided differently, however, awarding the \$7200 in question to the Torrance National bank.

Claiming the money was William McNally, who was convicted of the robbery of a National Supply co. credit union manager and sent to San Quentin.

McNally claimed that the money, found hidden in a shaving kit left at the home of a relative, was acquired from sales of pictures.

The robbery occurred in Torrance three years ago.

Vegas Airways Charged With Breach Of Contract

Edward Dietrich Jr., president of Collins-Dietrich Air Service Inc., which manages the Torrance airport, charged officials of Vegas Airways Inc., of breaching the contract with the city by dispensing gasoline to planes from their own trucks.

According to Dietrich, Vegas Airways, lessees of the airport property, have denied a revenue of 2 cents per gallon to the management and the city on all aviation gasoline.

The airport manager asked the Airport Commission for permission to take the necessary steps to halt further recurrence of such activity by Vegas Airways.

It was moved and seconded by the commission to send a letter informing them of the situation, and asking that representatives be present at the next Airport Commission meeting.

J. J. Newberry's Offers Four Credit Plans

Newberry's now offers four attractive credit plans, using a charge-a-plate, making them the only retail store in town using these, according to J. H. Paget, store manager.

The four plans include regular charge account, revolving charge account, easy payment plan, and a combination plan.

Charge-a-plates are good at all Newberry stores.

Full Length 6-Foot Fence Asked Here

Councilmen, annoyed that no proper action has ever been taken to protect children against the hazards of Dominguez Channel, passed a red-hot resolution Tuesday demanding that the County Board of Supervisors build a six-foot high chain link fence along both sides of the channel.

Mayor Albert Isen called the channel the "biggest sump" in the city of Torrance, meaning, by implication, that the county is the worst violator of a local law requiring all sumps to be fenced.

The resolution states that the channel in Torrance is 1 1/2 miles long, with an average width of 85 feet and an average depth of 10 feet, flowing through heavily populated residential areas "in which are located a high percentage of children."

The resolution goes on to say that the channel is 10 feet deep in the winter and one to two feet deep in the summer. It has a mud bottom and carries enough water at times during the rainy season to overflow its banks.

The resolution asks that the entire length of the channel be fenced "as soon as possible" and "no later than the end of the current school year."

A copy of the resolution will be sent to Gardena for similar consideration and appeal.

Traffic, Parking Proposals

Reactivation of the off-street parking assessment district was urged as well as other recommendations made by Ralph Dorsey, traffic consultant, at a meeting with officials of the city and Chamber of Commerce.

Proposal to drop some lots from the old district and add others to it was favorably received.

Key to the parking district is the Mayfair property and Bank of America parking lots intended for development as a four-story parking building eventually.

Dorsey indicated that some of the money for the development could come from parking meter revenue which he expects to total \$58,000 a year when all intended meters have been installed. Present revenues amount to \$32,000.

Dorsey predicted that Cabrillo will become a main traffic artery once Arlington is opened. Traffic will come down Arlington, Cabrillo, Eshelman, rather than continue down Arlington to Narbonne, he said.

Among the recommendations (Turn to Page 21)

Forgery Gang Caught After \$10,000 Fling

After a 24-hour payroll check cashing spree last week-end in the South Bay area, 11 men were arrested for forgeries totaling more than \$10,000.

Arrests were made when a number of faked North American Aviation payroll checks began turning up in liquor stores from Gardena to Norwalk. The operation started Friday night on Long Beach Blvd., working south through Huntington park, Torrance, Hawthorne and Gardena.

Two Torrance men were booked on suspicion of forgery at the Lynwood Police department. They are: Merle E. Cox, 37, and Arthur M. Moreland, 51, both produce men of 700 W. 208 st.

Franklin Delano Gipe, 23, of 24906 Cypress ave., Lomita, bus driver for the Torrance Unified School District, was not held when his bus struck Mrs. Janet Earnshaw, 80, of Long Beach, killing her.

Woman Dies

Press Offers Evening Classified Ad Service

Classified advertisers are being offered a new evening service starting today.

When you call after regular business hours when the office is closed, you may leave a message with an electronic ad-taker.

You will be given 30 seconds to leave your name, address, telephone number and message.

By writing down your classified ad in advance, you will have sufficient time to dictate it to the machine.

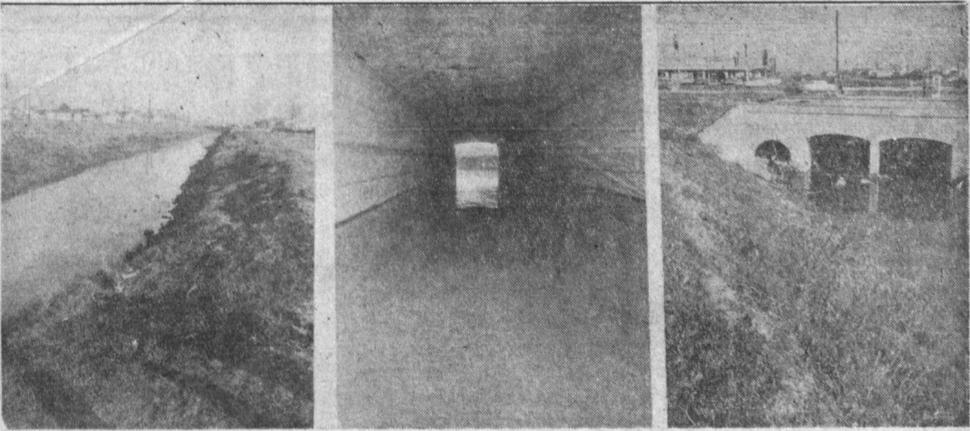
If there are any questions about the ad, a classified girl

The Largest Circulating Newspaper between Los Angeles and Long Beach

TORRANCE PRESS

1406 CRAVENS AVE. — FA. 8-2345

VOL. VIII 1 X 2 MARCH 7, 1957 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA TEN CENTS NO. 46



THIS IS UNFENCED DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL WAITING FOR ITS INEVITABLE VICTIM
A resolution has been passed by the Torrance City Council demanding protection from the county. Similar requests have been ignored in the past.—Press Photos by Bill Robison.

EDITORIAL Why Must We Wait Until A Child Dies

While Torrance has taken every possible precaution against hazardous sumps, one of the biggest death traps—Dominguez Channel—winds its sinister way through the city of Torrance, unfenced, inviting disaster.

Responsible for the condition of the channel are the County Flood Control District and the County Board of Supervisors, represented locally by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn and Burton W. Chace.

The Dominguez Channel running through Torrance is 1 1/2 miles long, none of which is fenced. During the rainy season it is deep and turbulent. It is only a matter of time until youngsters, walking and playing there, will fall victim to the sump and drown.

We believe that it is not too much to ask that some of the tax money going to the county and paid for by Torrance residents be used for protecting their children against a miserable temptation and an ever-menacing death trap.

HALLOWE'EN BANDITS CAUGHT IN THE ACT

Halloween bandits, who held up Strum's department store February 11, were caught during a robbery in Compton this week, according to Det. Capt. Ernie Ashton of the Torrance Police department.

Admitting the Torrance job were Robert H. Ballacina, 28, and Joseph Ventura, 27, both of Los Angeles.

The men were caught in the act by Compton police. The two suspects were wearing Halloween masks. During the Torrance robbery, the suspects, wearing masks, approached Oscar Strumwasser and a clerk while opening the store in the morning.

They forced the owners to open the safe and then tied up both men, as well as a third clerk who had come into the store. Strumwasser said the suspects got away with about \$1000 cash. They claim, however, that they got less than \$200.

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62 Warrants Missing In Bail Bond Probe

No discrepancies have been found in warrant records kept by the South Bay Municipal Court as claimed by Torrance Police Chief Willard Haslam.

So stated Deputy District Attorney William B. Keene who denied a statement made by Haslam to the Torrance City Council that his department was "breaking even" with the court in the present bail investigation.

The investigation is being carried out by Tom Harris, accounting investigator for the DA's office.

A total of 62 warrants are missing and "cannot be accounted for."

Of these, 51 were given to Jack Gee, ex-Torrance warrant officer, on which to collect bail. Keene said the 51 warrants represent \$1741 in missing bail money, and a total of \$2071 for the 62 warrants.

Gee, when questioned as to the whereabouts of the missing warrants, could not give a satisfactory answer, Keene stated. The 51 warrants may be re-issued in order to determine if the persons named on them were ever served, and, if so, whether or not they paid the bail, according to Keene.

The missing warrants cover part of 1953, and all of 1954 and 1955. Other records were still to be checked.

Know Your Gold Seal Merchants

Gold Seal Merchants who are outstanding leaders in their particular fields have been selected for their integrity and honesty and are especially pledged to uphold the highest code of business ethics.

Displayed in their window will be a Gold Seal which is the symbol of satisfaction when shopping.



BOB PEARSON, Torrance, just recently became manager and owner of **BOB'S RICHFIELD SERVICE** station, 940 W. Pacific Coast Hwy., Harbor City. The new owner boasts a high-quality line of gas and oil plus brake relining, motor tune-up and lubrication. Customers who trade at Bob's ideally located station can expect courteous, reliable and prompt service by dependable service station attendants.

VIRGIL'S FRAME AND WHEEL ALIGNMENT, 1750 Carson st., has been owned and operated by **VIRGIL BOLLES**, Torrance, for 13 years. His dependable service includes wheel balancing and aligning, tire truing, frame straightening, and authorized Bear Safety Service. His many years of experience in the frame and wheel alignment business are indicative of his reliable and well-established trade.

YMCA Program Flourishes As Drive Reaches Two-Third Mark



10 MORE Y-INDIAN GUIDE TRIBES
More than 300 dads and sons attended the induction of 10 more Y-Indian Guide tribes at the Civic Auditorium last week. This is one of the many activities provided for local youngsters by the local YMCA presently conducting a fund-raising drive which has reached the two-thirds mark.—Press Photo.

Sam Levy, general chairman of the Torrance YMCA Fund drive, announced that the drive has reached the two-thirds mark with \$16,563 reported thus far.

Levy reminded all YMCA campaigners and citizens that the local drive ends next Tuesday evening with a Victory Banquet at the YWCA. He urged all persons concerned with the continuance of the YMCA to help in these last few days to reach the \$24,000 goal.

Levy pointed out that over 100 Y-campaigners have not yet turned in a report, and he places high hopes that several thousand additional dollars will be forthcoming when these workers make their reports.

In a special appeal to all of the 85,000 citizens of Torrance, Levy urged each person to share in the support of this organization by sending in a check to the YMCA at 2080 Washington ave., or by phoning FA 8-1272 to have a Y-campaigner call upon them.

Levy reminded all that in the past year the YMCA of Torrance has served over 2,800 boys with camps, clubs, trips, leagues, and many other opportunities for growth.

Evidence of current success in the program in this past week is that no less than 1,100 persons attended three Torrance YMCA functions.

The most important was the charter night ceremonies of the new Torrance Y's Men's club, an adult service group related to the YMCA. Over 300 people honored the group during its installation. Officers included Paul Burnam, president; Everett Bradford, vice president; Frank Renz, secretary; and Jack Day, treasurer.

This men's group meets at the YMCA on the first and third Tuesday evenings each month. It is open to all men of Torrance between 21 and 36.

Another important event was

(Turn to Page 21)