

Special Census In City Starts Today

Torrance's fifth special census since 1950 begins this morning when 60 enumerators start their door-to-door check. The census, ordered by the City Council, will be completed within 17 days, Benjamin K. Kundin, census supervisor of the U. S. Census Bureau, announced.

Kundin issued an appeal for the "cooperation of everyone in the city." The city, he said, "cannot afford to be under-enumerated by even one person."

Pre-census estimates place the present city population between 92,000 and 95,000. The last census, on October 10, 1956, counted 82,241 people living within the city area.

The city receives \$6 per person in tax returns from the state and stands to gain at least \$60,000 more in funds if the lowest

estimate of 92,000 is revealed by the new count.

Kundin said a specially recruited corps of enumerators, mostly Torrance women, will go from house to house, asking eight questions of residents. The enumerators will ask for name, address and age of all residents of a household.

HELP SOUGHT

In a formal statement, Kundin declared:

"The United States Bureau of Census will endeavor to do everything possible to deliver a thorough and accurate census. This can not be done without the help of each and every Torrance citizen. It is imperative that all questions of the census enumerator be answered. The census enumerator is not asking for himself but on behalf of the United States Government. All answers to questions are confidential and will remain

the secret of the Bureau of the Census.

"If there happens to be a house in the rear, or if you know of dwellings that are difficult to find, such as garage apartments, rear apartments, basement dwellings, side or upstairs apartments dwellings in back of businesses, be sure to tell the census enumerator about them.

"If there is anyone who lives in such places and thinks that they have been missed, please call the City Hall so that a double check can be made.

"Finally, it is amazing how many parents do not tell census enumerators about their children and other members of the household. All children, including babies, are counted.

"Tell the enumerator of everyone who is sleeping at your house at the present time. The enumerator will know whether or not to count each person."

Motorcycle Crash Kills Torrance High Senior

A 17-year old Torrance High school senior was killed this week when the motorcycle he was driving without lights crashed head-on into a car.

The motorcyclist, Billy W. Meeker, of 2525 Dalemead ave., died at Harbor General Hospital Saturday night of a fractured skull and internal injuries two hours after he rammed into a car driven by another teen-ager.

A passenger, riding piggyback on Meeker's cycle, Robert A. Parker, 20, of 2487 Winlock dr., also suffered a cerebral concussion and a possible fractured clavicle when he was flung off the vehicle. He was reported in "critical" condition at Harbor General hospital.

Meeker's death brought the city's traffic fatality count to eight during the year.

According to Torrance police, Meeker rammed the side of a car driven by Carl Sass, 17-year-old North High school student, of 2605 W. 163 st., as Sass

was making a left-hand turn from Pacific Coast Highway into Winlock dr.

Police said Meeker was driving his cycle without lights and apparently failed to see Sass' car in the dusk. Sass and two passengers, James Wade of 3424 Cricklewood st., and Duane Vuot of 19509 Donora ave., were unhurt.

The cycle struck the right front door of Sass' car, and bounced back about five feet. The impact threw Meeker about six feet from the car, but flung Parker about 14 feet away from the wreckage.

OTHER ACCIDENTS

In other auto accidents during the week four Torrance residents escaped unhurt when their car overturned at Del Amo and Henrietta aves. Sunday evening.

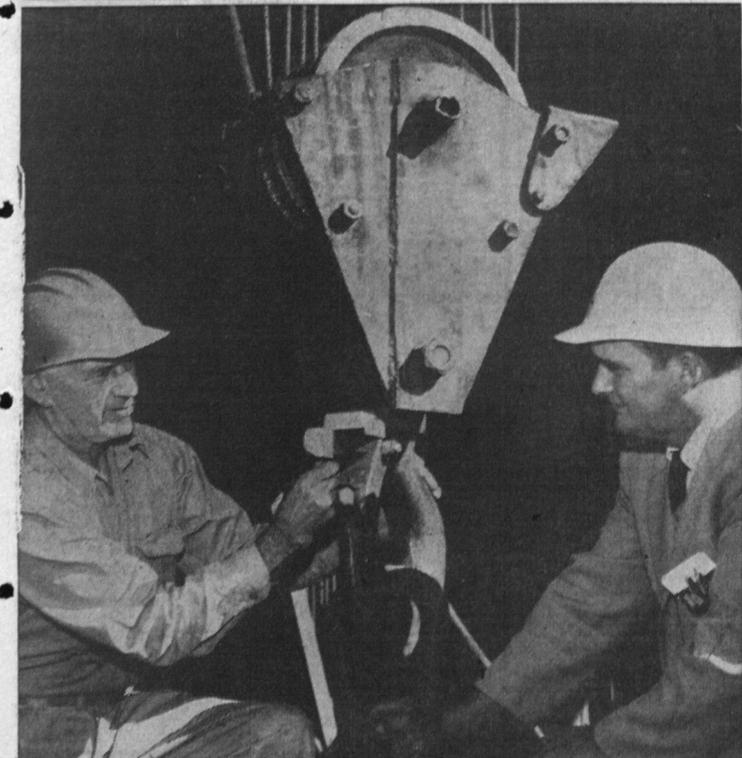
They were Vernon Harrison, 50, of 3935 Torrance blvd.; Thelma Duebrand, 15, of 1691 Gramercy st.; Kenneth Erickson 15,

of 4709 Jacques st. and Timothy Halback, 14, of 22013 Anza ave.

In another accident Sunday, Ethel S. DeMoss, 39, of 846 W. 147 st. Gardena, was knocked unconscious when she passed through a red light at Hawthorne and Torrance blvds. and crashed into a car driven by Robert H. Halliwell, 17, of 3723 W. 226 st.

A dog running into the street was the cause of an accident on 182 st. Monday. Mrs. Ann C. Sumerack, 47, of 1042 W. East rd, stopped her car suddenly to avoid hitting the dog. A car driven by Barbara Engle, 25, of 18816 Patronella could not stop in time and rammed into the rear of Mrs. Sumerack's car.

Brakes that failed to operate resulted in another minor accident Monday afternoon. A car driven by Mrs. Alice Huddleston, 40, of 4833 Carmelyst, crashed into one driven by Edward L. Remme of Fullerton at 190 st. and Anza ave., when the brakes on Mrs. Huddleston's car gave out.



A NEW SELF-LOCKING GATE for heavy-duty crane hooks has been developed at the Torrance Works of U. S. Steel's Columbia-Geneva Steel Division. Above, Thomas Ramskill, of 1604 W. 220 st., left, open hearth maintenance foreman who designed the gate, and E. J. Ahlstrom, supervisor of safety, check the gate's

locking mechanism on the 10-ton open hearth stripping crane hook. Placed in service several months ago on several of the mill's cranes, the self-locking gate has proved to be safer and more efficient than locking mechanisms previously used at Torrance Works.

Tom Ramskill Fixes Everything At U. S. Steel's Torrance Plant

Now in use at the Torrance Works of U. S. Steel's Columbia-Geneva Steel Division, a new self-locking gate for heavy-duty crane hooks is the latest in several score methods improvements developed by Thomas Ramskill, open hearth maintenance foreman, during his 31 years at the mill.

Of a total of 58 methods improvements submitted in the last five years alone, for example, all but eight of his ideas were accepted by plant management, giving Tommy Ramskill a batting average that would rate high in any league.

A few of his methods improvements that were adopted

include a snap-on coupling for open hearth door frames, a redesign of open hearth burners and a redesigned hydraulic drive for the open hearth charging machine.

Born in Grimsby, Lincolnshire, England, Mr. Ramskill still retains a touch of his native heath in his voice, despite having lived in this country some 35 years.

It was in 1922 that he left England to settle down—so he thought at the time—in Dayton, Ohio. One month later, he saw the light and moved to Los Angeles, and in 1933 took up residence in Torrance where he now lives at 1604

West 220 st. with his wife, Alexandrina.

Talk to Tommy Ramskill any length of time and the discussion will sooner or later get around to his three grandsons, the children of his daughter, Mrs. Roland Rush, who attended Torrance schools before taking her master's degree at Columbia University and settling down in Washington, D.C.

He served in the first world war with the British Army from 1914 to 1919 and is a member of the Canadian Veterans Legion.

He holds the rank of major in the California National Guard Reserve in which he has 11 years service.

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Per Copy

VOL. IX | 2 | 119 Thursday, November 14, 1957 No. 42

TORRANCE POLICE COMB AREA FOR CHILD-KILLER



POLICE FROM ENTIRE COUNTY area converged on Rolling Hills Estates to hunt killer of Laura Wetzel. Here they map their hunt during an all-night vigil Monday.

Youth Last Seen At Hermosa Beach

Torrance police joined hundreds of county policemen in the relentless round-the-clock search for the 15-year old killer of 22-month-old Laura Wetzel whom he smothered to death in a Rolling Hills Estates home Monday afternoon.

The day and night search narrowed down to the Hermosa and Redondo Beach area Wednesday afternoon when police determined that the killer, John Miller, had slept in a car parked on a used car lot in Hermosa Beach that morning.

This Is The Killer:

Police issued the following description of John Lawrence Miller, 15, of Long Beach:

Height: 5 feet, 9 inches;
Weight: About 165 pounds; Eyes: Hazel; Hair: Light brown, combed straight back with long sideburns;
Marks: Mole on right side of chin, below right edge of mouth; Clothing: Tan slacks, short sleeved grayish sports shirt, brown shoes. He is believed armed with a butcher knife and a .22-caliber pistol.



Torrance, Santa Monica Clash Friday for Bay League Title

BY DICK RICE

Tomorrow night is the night for the Torrance Tartars as they tackle the Vikings at Santa Monica in a game that decides the winner of the Bay League crown.

Torrance has struggled through the first four league games this year and remained undefeated, although their record was marred by a tie with Redondo. The Vikings, undefeated in league play, have snowed under all opponents in their quest for the title.

Coach Dick Turner's crew clinched second place with their 19 to 6 victory over Leuzinger last Friday. The Tartars, picked to land in the League cellar in September, confounded all the experts as they eked out their victories.

Santa Monica is a power-packed team with a rugged line and fast, hard hitting backs like A. J. Bailey and Tom Bates. They pose a real threat to the Tartars' hopes for first place, but the dogged determination of the

underdog Torrance squad that has shown in previous games this season will be a big factor in tomorrow's game.

The Tartars will be depending on quarterback Ron Veres and halfbacks Roger Reed and Bob Grajeda to move the ball across that Samohi goal. Pass receivers like Harold Davis, Butch White and Mike Gonta will also be

heavily counted upon.

The Tartars' stubborn defense has allowed a total of only 19 points to their opponents in league play thus far. In offense, however, the Vikings have amassed a whopping total of 120 points, while Torrance pushed across only 39. The game shapes up as a good offense against a good defense.

6 In Voice Of Democracy Finals Tonight

Torrance's Voice of Democracy winner, and two runners-up, were to be chosen tonight in the finals of the city contest to be held at the National Guard Armory.

Six high school students, selected in earlier elimination contests in the three city high schools, will vie for first prize and a chance to represent the city in district competition later in the month.

The six are: Bob Brooks and Jim Hawkins of South High; Judith Lundborn and Jack Rettig of Torrance High; and Elaine Washeleski and Roberta Terheggen of North High.

A Voice of Democracy key and certificate will be awarded to the winner of each high school contest, according to Drs. Aaron Rauch and Al Kline, co-chairmen of the Junior Chamber of Commerce committee which is sponsoring the annual

Famed Ocean Explorer Comes to City Nov. 20

One of the world's greatest underwater explorers, Captain Jacques-Yves Cousteau, director of the Oceanographic Museum and Research Institute of Monaco, will appear in Torrance November 20, Torrance Aquatics Recreation Supervisor Joe Rode, announced this week.

Capt. Cousteau will be the major speaker at the Torrance Recreation Department's First Annual Aquatic Achievement ceremony that will draw aquatic clubs, county life guards, recreation officials and swimming instructors from the entire Southland.

The keys to the city will be presented to the world-renowned scientist on November 20 in another ceremony at City Hall.

Capt. Cousteau's film, "The Silent World," will be shown at the Grand Theater on Cravens ave. The full-length film depicts the underwater adventures of a band of skin divers who probed the depths of seas in the East-

Kenneth Hahn To Address Local Chamber

Kenneth Hahn, Los Angeles County Supervisor, will be the featured speaker at the monthly membership breakfast of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, Tuesday, November 19 at the Torrance YWCA building, 2320 Carson st. It was announced Wednesday by Co-Chairmen Arthur Otsea and Darwin Parrish.

The youthful supervisor will discuss issues affecting the Torrance area and will not speak on "partisan" issues.

Hahn gained favor with Torrance City and Chamber officials for his leadership in the battle to acquire funds for the Harbor and San Diego freeways. Hahn and Torrance City Councilman Nicholas O. Dralle headed a 40-man delegation from South Bay cities to Sacramento recently in a successful attempt to gain close to \$18,000,000 in appropriations.

Reservations may be secured by calling the chamber office.

Rent House 'In No Time' With Press Ad

The effectiveness of a Torrance Press classified ad was established "in no time at all," for Fred J. Thompson, of Lomita blvd.

Thompson inserted a classified ad offering a one bedroom unfurnished house for rent, and "in no time at all," he reported, the house was rented.

Torrance Press classified ads work quickly and effectively for any advertiser. Call FA 8-2341, or bring in your ad today. The cost is low, and the results are high.

Carelessness Doesn't Pay

Three Torrance doctors whose offices were burglarized this week were relieved to have been ransacked by a careless burglar.

Drs. Robert Jackson, Donald Thompkins and Paul Gethner, who maintain offices at 1753 Cabrillo ave., told Torrance police that the burglar took \$19 in cash found in several of the desks and files in their offices when he broke in over the weekend.

But the thief missed a bulky envelope that contained \$2,000 in cash.

More than 75 Police Officers

More than 75 police officers from Torrance, Redondo, Hermosa, and Manhattan Beaches, and the county sheriff's office, conducted a house to house search of the area around the used car lot Wednesday morning. They stopped all cars entering and leaving the area.

But the reform school escapee slipped through the police net for the second time. He had avoided a 20-man dragnet thrown around the Rolling Hills Estates area from Monday afternoon to Tuesday morning.

The youth was identified from fingerprints he left behind in the home of Stafford Thurmond of 2654 Dunwood rd., where Laura Wetzel's body was found by her mother Monday afternoon. She had been smothered in blankets by Miller.

Miller brandished a knife and a .22 caliber revolver at Mrs. Charles Wetzel as he fled from the Thurmond home. The mother had gone into the house to look for her missing daughter after she had frantically searched the area for her for more than an hour. Mr. and Mrs. Thurmond were away from their home at the time.

Miller was identified by Sheriff's detective chief Gordon Bowers as the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold A. Miller, of 2354 Tulane ave., Long Beach. The 15-year old boy had been taken out of the Fred C. Nelles School for Delinquent Boys in Whittier on a ten-hour pass requested by his parents Sunday. The boy had been serving a sentence for car theft.

When his parents stopped at a drive-in restaurant before returning him to school, the boy jumped out of the car and fled. He apparently hitchhiked to Rolling Hills Estates.

His father told reporters: "I hope they catch my boy before anyone else is hurt."

Mayor Flies to Texas for Nike Firing Display

Torrance Mayor Albert Isen was among a group of ten civilian dignitaries from the Harbor and Orange County area, who flew to Fort Bliss, Texas, this week to see two of the Nike guided missile units which defended Los Angeles area fire the Nike missile at annual service practice.

As guests of Brig. Gen. Willis A. Perry, commander of the 47th Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade, the group will participate in what the Army calls "Operation Understanding." General Perry said, "The operation is one under which we invite local civic and business leaders to travel to the Red Canyon Nike firing range, a part of Fort Bliss. While there our local units fire Nike at drone targets and we are able to show these leaders the effectiveness of Nike. This is not a special show, but a regular annual service firing practice for these units."

Those making the trip in addition to Mayor Isen, are Mayor H. Louis Lake of Garden Grove; John Biby, president, Long Beach Chamber of Commerce; Jack Campbell of Revell, Inc.; Venice; Clint Furrer, chairman of the Armed Forces Committee, Long Beach Chamber of Commerce; R. E. Kraebel, president of Citizens Escrow Co., San Pedro; Bynner Martin, publisher of the San Pedro News-Pilot; King Williams, editor, Torrance Herald, and James L. Cooper, city editor of the Garden Grove Daily News.

The "Operation Understanding" group departed for Fort Bliss Tuesday morning. Wednesday the civilians, accompanied by their military hosts, will fly to Red Canyon Range, N.M., to see the units actually participate in firing. The group were to return to Fort Bliss Wednesday evening. Thursday the group will return to Los Angeles.

Father Hatred

The youth had been described by California Youth Authority psychiatrists as having "a deep-seated hatred of his father."

"possibly might turn to crime," the examiners told juvenile officials when the youth was sentenced to the Whittier correction school.

The youth's pattern of crime, had been established two years earlier, however. He was arrested for house burglary in 1955 but was released in the custody of his mother. A month later police authorities listed him as a runaway. He refused to attend a Long Beach junior

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