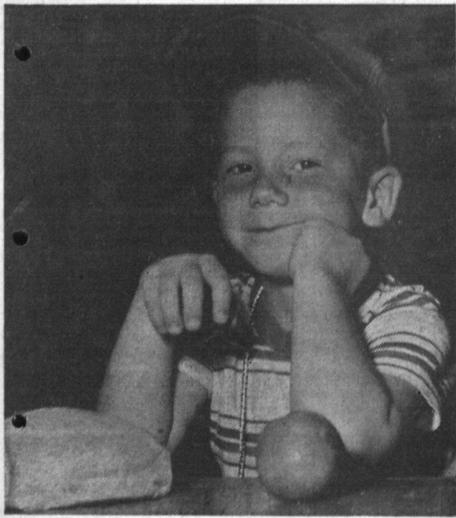


DOPE PEDDLER DRIVE OPENS



DREAMING of Family Day in Torrance Park July 4 is Bill Nall, 5, as he munches sandwich. Holiday events will include get-acquainted games, contests and relays, awards and an afternoon talent show. Other features are a bean-guessing and baby contest.

Battle of Music Boxes Irks Hollywood Riviera Residents

Hollywood Riviera residents just don't dig that cool music heard daily in the neighborhood.

It isn't that they're a bunch of squares, but the sounds they hear in their pads don't come in smooth.

As a matter of fact, the din comes from hot and heavy competition among ice cream vendors cruising the neighborhood.

"Ever since school let out, there have been swarms of ice cream men vying with each other for kids' attention. They just seem to follow each other around," complains Mrs. Pat Schultz, of 104 Paseo de Granada.

Instead of the one truck which used to solo with a low-pitched musical appeal, now there are six trucks, all of them with their volume turned as high as it goes.

"It's rather annoying to a housewife with small children," Mrs. Schultz said. "I think they're a public nuisance."

'Surgeon' Bandits Operate Among Customers of Cafe

Two bandits dressed as surgeons used a bar as an operating room early Friday morning.

The pair, which wore white surgical masks, robbed the owner and three customers of a cafe at 2242 S. Normandie and made off with \$85 in cash.

Melvin Edward Rigby, owner of the bar, told deputy sheriffs the two "doctors" walked into his place at closing time and pointed 32 caliber automatics.

They lined six customers up against the wall, but were able

Two Held on Auto Stealing

Two men, one of them said to be on a 150-per day benzadrine "diet," were arrested on suspicion of stealing an auto from a Torrance dealer while their girl friend was released after questioning.

The trio was arrested by deputy sheriffs who observed Gail Eugene Cretsingler, 25, of 4609 161st st., Lawndale, and Janice Noleman, 21, his girl friend, sitting in a car in front of Cretsingler's house Wednesday.

The routine investigation revealed that the license plates of the vehicle had been switched and the serial number removed.

Officers identified the auto as the same one that was stolen from Paul's Chevrolet, Torrance, on June 21, when a man and woman persuaded a salesman to let them take it on a demonstration ride. The couple never returned with the car.

Further investigation led to the arrest of Charles M. Lohman, 25, 3724 W. 139th st., Hawthorne, who was identified by the salesman as the man who took the car on a demonstration ride, officers said.

Miss Noleman was released after it was disclosed she was unaware of the theft.

Police said that Lohman reportedly is a heavy user of benzedrine.

Deputies said that when they accosted Cretsingler, he dashed off and attempted to hide in a wood pile.

Trial Delayed

Trial of Mrs. Mary Strong, Torrance nurse, on second degree murder charges, was continued to July 21 in Long Beach Superior Court.

The defendant is charged with the abortion death of Mrs. Priscilla Young, 37, of Wilmington, here March 31.

The case was postponed because the prosecutor is tied up with another case.

Petition Change in Penalties

A statewide war on dope peddlers was launched this week under sponsorship of the Torrance, Gardena, and Redondo Beach Elks lodges.

The fraternal organizations are seeking a state law which will require mandatory, 30-year prison sentences for all convicted narcotics "pushers."

"Make the overhead so high that they can't afford to operate," declared Roger J. Rolle, narcotics chairman of the County Grand Jury, at a jammed meeting in Gardena Elks Lodge Wednesday.

He told the audience of 1200 persons which thronged the hall, that too many pushers now get off with light sentences.

Light Sentences

Rolle cited examples of a Long Beach judge who passed out a six months sentence while another escaped from doing any time at all.

The Elks have started a petition drive which they hope will bring changes in punishment for dope peddlers. With some 20,000 signatures already obtained in Torrance, Gardena and Redondo Beach, the leaders are seeking 2,000,000 signatures throughout the state.

Purpose of the mandatory sentence is to take discretionary powers away from judges who are inclined to pass out light sentences.

Crime Factor

Capt. R. B. Brooks, head of the sheriff's narcotics squad, told the audience that 75 per cent of all crimes can be attributed in some way to narcotics use.

Ray Vader, chief of customs for California borders, said that he does not have sufficient manpower to stop smuggling of dope into the state.

In a brief statement, Mayor Albert Isen and Police Chief Percy Bennett said they are in favor of the Elks program as a way to cut down peddling.

Speakers cited that in Ohio, where the tough law was passed some time ago, dope peddlings has been cut from 1000 to 72 cases a year.

Seize Man with Gun in Cafe

A farm foreman, who allegedly displayed a .25 caliber automatic in a bar at 223rd st. and Arlington ave. Thursday night was arrested on suspicion of robbery.

Police were called to the cafe when patrons complained that Jose Carlos Martinez, 33, of 3426 Lomita Blvd., had a gun on him.

Officers said they found the small weapon concealed in the suspect's pants.

Becker, Low to Head Chest Fund Campaigns in Fall

There will be a nearly new broom in the Harbor area when the Community Chest holds its annual drive this fall, according to area vice chairman Ed Patterson, acting for Glenn Koger, area chairman.

Of the seven new city chairmen appointed at a meeting at the Hacienda Hotel, six are serving as city chairmen for the first time.

City chairmen serving for the first time are Dr. Warren Low, Harbor City-Lomita; Robert H. Longacre, Gardena; Mrs. A. J. Fields, Rolling Hills; Jim Becker, Torrance; Al Moe, San Pedro, and Boyd McElroy, Wilmington.

Dr. Warren Low, chairman for Harbor City, has been active in community affairs in both Harbor City and Lomita where he is president of the chamber of commerce.

Jim Becker of Torrance, is an executive of Southern California Gas Co., has served on the membership drive for the Community Chest supported by Boy Scout Council and is a member of the Lion's Club.



NEW CITY CHAIRMAN of Torrance, Jim Becker points out the important residential areas to be covered during the 1958 Community Chest campaign. Residential volunteers will be under the leadership of Area Residential Chair-

Sales Tax for City In Gain

Despite a sharp drop in second quarter distribution, Torrance's sales-tax receipts for the current fiscal year showed a \$40,000 increase over last year.

Jerome Scharfman, director of finance, said that Torrance received a total of \$697,512 in sales taxes during the year, up from \$658,679 for the previous fiscal year.

Second quarter receipts, reflecting the January through March quarter of 1958, amounted to \$146,436, compared with \$224,990, for the corresponding period in 1957.

Conservative

City Manager George Stevens, who had estimated receipts for this year to amount to \$650,000, said he had used conservative figures in his estimates.

He added that motor vehicle in lieu taxes and court fine receipts showed a drop below his estimate.

The city collected \$476,000 in vehicle revenue compared with \$430,000 for the 1956-57 period. Despite the increase, the amount was \$20,000 below Stevens' estimate.

One Per Cent

Figures released by the Board of Equalization which collects the revenue, showed that most cities in Los Angeles County showed a second quarter drop except those where new shopping centers have been established, such as Redondo Beach and West Covina.

No Pay Days for Commissioners

City commissioners were stripped of monetary rewards before they even get their first pay check.

Councilman Nicholas O. Drale Tuesday reversed his previous stand and voted against a measure under which all city commission members were to have received \$10 for each meeting with maximum pay of \$20 a month.

With Drale's change of mind, the pay plan was defeated by a 4-to-3 vote with Councilmen Robert Jahn, Willys Blonnt and George Bradford teaming up with him.

Only members of the Planning Commission, who have received the pay all along, will continue to receive their checks.

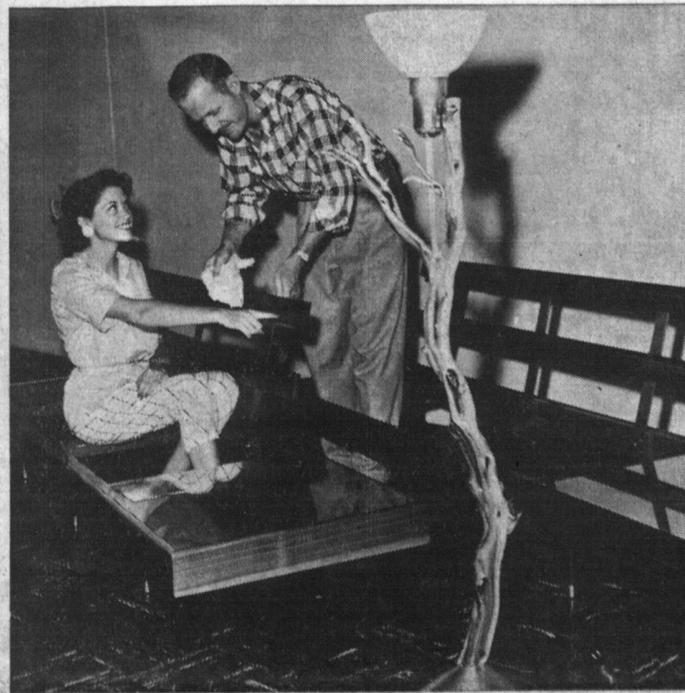
The Largest Circulating Newspaper between Los Angeles and Long Beach

TORRANCE PRESS

1406 CRAVENS AVE.—FA 8-2345 10c PER COPY

VOL. X 1 ■ 2 ■ MONDAY, JUNE 30, 1958 NUMBER 22

Impromptu Posse Grabs Two Burglary Suspects



LABOR OF LOVE—While Sharon Starns, "Miss Torrance," gives helpful suggestions, Norman Lovelady, her fiance, puts final touches on furniture he built himself. The couple will be married July 20.

Prospective Bridegroom Builds Own Furniture

Norman Lovelady is a young man who doesn't mind arising 30 minutes earlier each day to work on his "hope chest."

For the past four months he's been building living room and dining room furniture to be used by him and his fiancee, Sharon Starns, when they get married July 20.

Airport Staffed 24 Hours

With a lighted runway to be inaugurated at Torrance Municipal Airport this week end, personnel will be on duty 24 hours a day to cut down on thefts and stop drunks from taking off.

Airport Manager Jack Egan said that someone will be on duty around the clock as result of demands by city councilman for night watchman protection.

Councilman Willys Blonnt recently said that guards should be posted to prevent drunks from taking off and to cut down on thefts at the airport.

Control Point

Egan said he will establish a control point at the entrance of the field so that attendants can keep out persons who have no business on the field.

The airport will be operational 24 hours a day and Egan expects an upswing in night flying, at least for the next few months.

Starting Tuesday, new rates for tie-down fees will go into effect, raising the cost for most plane owners from \$10 to \$15 per month.

800 Flights

The manager reported that last week end, the control tower reported a total of 800 flights each on Saturday and Sunday.

In the meantime, the Airport Commission ordered Egan to prepare an air space use ordinance to establish building heights of structures in the vicinity of the airport.

Egan said that the proposal was made in order to prevent interference to air navigation by huge structures in the path of planes.

He has recommended a limit of one foot height for every seven feet distance from the airport perimeter.

Speeding Car Flips on Field

The driver of a car which police said was traveling in excess of 80 mph when it spun out of control, rolled over and rammed into an oil well guy wire, escaped with only minor cuts and bruises.

Edward Lee Metcalf, 20, of 21801 Paul st., was treated at an emergency hospital after his car skidded into a field at Hawthorne Blvd. and Emerald. He told officers he lost control when he swerved to avoid colliding with a truck.

Police said they observed 400 feet of skid marks and the car traveled another 150 feet into the field, rolled over and struck the oil well support cable.

Two youngsters were injured in other accidents this week.

Donald Grant Marshall, 2, of 5539 Norton, was taken to Harbor General Hospital with cuts and bruises, after he was struck by an auto driven by Jack Conway Owens, 31, of 2810 Martha st., in front of 5535 Halison ave., officers reported.

Wayne Thomas McCluskey, 12, of 3515 W. 229th st., received bruises on his arms and legs when his bicycle collided with an auto in front of 3506 W. 229th st.

Police said the driver of the auto was Patricia Ann Smith, 32, of 3425 W. 229th st.

Residents Capture Teenagers

Two youths from Torrance and Lomita were arrested by an impromptu posse of armed residents early Saturday morning, after an attempt to burglarize a home.

Lee R. Bly, 33, 2151 Crestwood dr., East Rolling Hills, captured a 17-year-old Lomita youth in the rear of his house.

Bly told deputy sheriffs that he had been tipped off by a neighbor, Mrs. Mariann Erickson of 2156 Crestwood, that she observed two youths behind his house.

Bly immediately grabbed a rifle and found the boy by a sliding door in the rear of his property.

While one suspect was being held, Roland J. Erickson, the neighbor who had just returned home, made a search for the other suspect, and found the 16-year-old Torrance youth about to enter a car.

Erickson took him into custody and both boys were turned over to deputy sheriffs.

Deputies said they found a brown glove and a flashlight dropped at the rear of Bly's home and that the screen door had been forced.

Officers said the youths said they had "borrowed" the auto they were using from a San Pedro man.

Both were held at the Lennox Sheriff's station on suspicion of burglary and auto theft.

Cyclists Flee Police, Captured After Short Chase

Two motorcyclists were arrested by Torrance police early Saturday following a 55 mph chase through Walteria.

Bobby Joe Smith, 23, of Hermosa Beach, told officers that he and his friends, William C. Schlachter, 20, of San Pedro, took off because Smith had just received a traffic citation and was afraid to get another one.

Officers said they first observed the two on separate cycles at Newton st. and Pitcairn way and started to pursue them.

The pair was halted at 3124 Dalemead.

Both were arrested on charges of evading arrest, speeding, failure to make a boulevard stop, improper license plates, defective mufflers and failure to have a proper operator's license.

Schlachter was released on \$250 bail while Smith is still in custody.

Alert Neighbor Frightens Thieves

An alert neighbor frightened off thieves after they burglarized a home whose owner was away on vacation.

Mrs. Harriett Patton of 25628 Pennsylvania ave., flipped on the flood lights in her back yard after hearing loud noises in the home of Jack Suddeth of 2369 Pacific Coast hwy., she told deputies at the Lennox Sheriff's station Friday.

Deputies found the burglars had left a television set, taken from the Suddeth home, abandoned in the yard.

'Ram Session' Pair Nabbed on Drunk Charge in Drive-in

Police were still shaking their heads in wonder over the strange antics of a Torrance couple they arrested on drunk charges Wednesday night.

Officers were called to Mary's Lamb Drive-in at Hawthorne and Torrance blvds., after receiving a report that a "wild" car was ramming patrons' autos on the lot.

When they arrived, they discovered Mrs. Opal E. Walters, 50, of 21305 Anza ave., seated behind the wheel of the vehicle which allegedly struck the other cars.

Next to the car they found her husband, Lester, 54, chef at the drive-in.

When police questioned Walters on his whereabouts during the ram-session, he was quoted as replying:

"I was underneath the car when she stepped on the gas."