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TOP COP—Sgt. Don S. Hamilton, second from right, chief of detectives, was acclaimed South Bay Officer of the Year by the Bar Association Monday. Boris S. Woolley, president of the lawyers' group, left, presents the perpetual trophy to Police Chief Percy Bennett, while Mark Wood, committee chairman, presents the individual trophy to Hamilton. —Press Photo

## City, Schools Clash on Use of Auditorium

### Bradford in Tiff at Hull

Reported unavailability of school facilities for use by the Torrance Area Youth Band drew a sharp blast from a Councilman Tuesday night.

"I don't think (Dr. J. H.) Hull has any right to keep you out of the auditorium," Councilman George Bradford informed James Van Dyck, director of the band.

Van Dyck had previously explained to Mayor Albert Isen that he was informed by school officials that their facilities were unavailable to his group for rehearsals and concerts except for high fees.

"The schools are paid for by the people. They use them for political rallies and other things," Bradford snapped.

"He (Dr. Hull, school superintendent) better find out he lives in the City of Torrance with people, instead of a high school," the councilman added irately.

"The schools are part of the city despite what Dr. Hull's thinking is about it. It's about time he realizes it."

Van Dyck, whose band has been using the auditorium for the past 12 years, said he will have to move out by Sept. 1, because of its sale to the Security First National Bank.

He asked the City Council to either allocate an additional \$100 a month to the band so it can pay rental or come up with another suggestion.

In reply to the mayor's questions, the bandmaster said that the schools will charge him \$25 to use the auditorium for rehearsals and \$100 for concerts.

The councilmen instructed City Manager George Stevens to contact Hull to find a solution to Van Dyck's homeless band.

### Teacher Pay Hike Approved

A salary raise for all teachers and employees of the Torrance Unified School District was voted Tuesday night by the Board of Education.

The action raises the minimum salary of regularly-credentialed teachers from \$4635 to \$4740 and the maximum from \$8031 to \$8203. Other employees of the district will get raises of between two and three per cent.

The action was taken after the Board noted that nearly all surrounding districts had raised employee salaries. Personnel Director Robert Morton told the board that the action brought Torrance into a "competitive" position in obtaining good new teachers.

The salary hike will cost an additional \$184,000. However, more than \$100,000 was saved by the board action in doubling up kindergarten classes.



BIG GAME HUNTERS—Showing their three-day catch of butterflies, bagged near El Refino Park, are Jeffrey Watson, 6, of 504 Paseo de las Estrellas, left, and Keith Larson, 8, of 529 Paseo de las Estrellas. Boys intend to start a collection. —Press Photo

### Trio Held on Dope Charges

A youth who wandered into the police station to complain about a police officer, joined two of his friends in a jail cell a few minutes later.

Delmar French, 19, of 4535 Narrot St., was booked on suspicion of narcotics charges, when he strolled into the station during the dawn hours Tuesday to complain about the arrest of a teen-ager couple booked earlier on similar charges.

His friends, Walter Ferrell Weisse, 19, of 1918 Rockefeller Lane, Redondo Beach, and his wife, Kathryn, 18, were collared three hours earlier after police answered a disturbance call at 4501 Torrance Blvd.

The four officers who answered the call said that Weisse and his wife bit, kicked and cursed them and they finally loaded Mrs. Weisse bodily into a police car to take her down to the station.

The policemen said they discovered needle marks on both the husband and the wife.

French, who was also at the scene, allegedly singled out Officer Paul Singleton who had arrested him 10 days before on another narcotics charge from which he was cleared, for verbal abuse.

Officers finally told him to leave the place.

Three hours later, French called Police Lt. Robert Wright and told him he had a complaint against a policeman. Wright told him to come down to the station. When French showed up at the station, officers said they noticed needle marks on him and booked him.

## Active Housewife is Beach Brawl Mother of the Year Knifing Is Under Probe

A hardworking housewife who takes in washing to augment the family income, was chosen "Carl's Mother of the Year."

Mrs. Billie Robertson, of 22111 S. Harvard Blvd., became the winner of a \$500 mink stole presented by Carl's Market which had co-sponsored the contest with the Torrance Press.

Grand opening of the new supermarket will be held Thursday with ribbon-cutting ceremonies at 9 a.m.

"At first I thought that someone was pulling my leg. When I found that it was true I started bawling," said Mrs. Robertson after she was notified of winning the search for the outstanding mother.

Her daughter, Lana, 10, who will enter the fifth grade at 223rd St. Elementary School in September, was equally elated.

"I have the best mother in the world," she said.

It was Lana who sat down at the kitchen table and wrote the winning letter describing her mother's many achievements.

For her winning letter, Carl's Market outfitted her with a complete \$100 wardrobe and she and her mother were hosted at a luncheon by Arthur and Morton Caplan, owners of the market chain whose newest store will open at 228th St. and Vermont Ave. Thursday.

Mrs. Robertson, who has lived in the Torrance area for most of her 38 years, leads an active life,

Preliminary hearing for a Harbor City man who was knifed while allegedly wielding a tire iron, will be held tomorrow before Municipal Judge Otto B. Willett.

He is Tony Pusich, Jr., 18, of 26460 Leesdale Ave., who was arrested Sunday following a brawl near Torrance Beach.

Pusich received a knife wound in his shoulder when another youth tussled with him for possession of the iron.

Police also arrested a second suspect, identified as James Britt, 18, also of Harbor City, who allegedly participated in the attack of three men at Paseo de la Concha and Paseo de la Playa Sunday afternoon.

Pusich appeared with his arm in a sling during his arraignment Tuesday where he was charged with assault with force likely to inflict great bodily injury. His bail was set at \$1000.

Police said that Pusich and Britt attacked John T. Jones, 20, (Continued on page two)

### School Tax Rate Hike OK'd

A \$10,554,775 budget for operation of Torrance schools during the 1959-60 school year was adopted Tuesday by the School Board.

Increased costs will mean an increase of about 17 cents in taxes for operating expenses. However, the final tax rate will be determined when the state sets retirement and bond rates.

Superintendent J. H. Hull cited these reasons for the larger budget:

1. An expected increase of more than 2000 students next fall. This will bring the district total to more than 25,000 and will mean a number of new teachers.

2. An increase in teacher and employee salaries was granted (Continued on page 15)

### Schools Award Bids on 20 More Classes

The stork and the schools continued their race, as the Torrance Board of Education Tuesday awarded bids for 20 more classrooms at five Torrance elementary schools.

The new facilities, containing four classrooms each, will be located at Anza, Arlington, Lincoln, Newton, and Sepulveda Elementary Schools. The bid was awarded to the Calcor Corp. for \$370,561. Construction will begin as soon as approval can be obtained from the State.

(Continued on page two)



MOTHER OF YEAR—Mrs. Billie Robertson receives congratulations from judging committee and sponsors after she is selected Carl's Mother of the Year. She is flanked by Mayor Albert Isen and Dick Fitzgerald, Chamber manager, who acted as judges, and Morton and Arthur Caplan, rear, owner's of Carl's Market. A \$500 mink stole from the Gay Shop was part of the prizes won by Mrs. Robertson, who will be guest of honor at the grand opening of the store. —Press Photo

### \$205,000 Suit Filed in Death

A \$205,000 damage suit against the driver of an automobile involved in a fatal accident here, was filed Tuesday in Southwest Superior Court.

The action was brought by Attorney Boris S. Woolley in behalf of the survivors of Warren W. Reynolds, 51, of 24405 Neece Ave., killed Feb. 24 at Hawthorne Blvd. and 239th St.

Damages are sought from Robert Stuart Johnson a bank loan officer of Palos Verdes Estates, alleged driver of the vehicle which struck Reynolds while crossing the street.

The defendant is accused of driving his light foreign car in a negligent and careless manner.

Plaintiffs in the case are Emily F., Warren F., Stephen F. Reynolds and Priscilla Reynolds Hall.

### Youngster Hit by Car, Injured

A youngster chasing after a dog, suffered a possible broken foot when he was struck by an auto on Falda Ave., near 183rd St. Monday.

Injured was Charles Lee Hitchcock, 9, of 18340 Falda Ave., police said. The driver of the car, Violet Bernice Finlay, 17, of 16425 Illinois Ct., was not held.



NEW OUTFIT—Dress shop owner Neta Mann helps Lana Robertson, 10, writer of the winning letter in the Carl's Mother of the Year contest, make selection of the \$100 wardrobe she won. Looking on are Lana's mother, Mrs. Billie Robertson, and Arthur and Morton Caplan, owners of Carl's Market, which will hold grand opening of the new Torrance store at 228th St. and Vermont Ave., next Thursday.