

# GRID BANQUET HONORING ALL CITY TEAM SET FOR TONIGHT

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LARGE DONATION—Jim Becker, president of the Torrance Dental Health Association, receives check from Dan McLayne, president of the North Torrance Lions Club. Mrs. Ralph McBee approves. Check was one of largest donations to local club.

### Supervisors OK Dominguez Flood Improvements

Approval and acceptance by the Board of Supervisors of the second unit in a series of major improvements of Dominguez channel, designed to provide increased flood protection for Torrance, Gardena, Lawndale, Hawthorne, and adjacent communities, was announced this week by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn. This project included lowering the channel and constructing concrete sides and bottom from Denker Ave. to Gramercy Pl. The channel was widened to 75 feet. New bridges were built at Western Ave., Artesia Blvd., and Gramercy.

### ZANY 3-HOUR MIDNIGHT SALE

Cabrillo Ave. will sound more like Camarillo Ave. when three zany downtown Torrance automobile dealers roll out the red carpet for all of Southern California with one of the most fabulous automobile sales of the century — a three-hour "Life Begins at Midnight Sale" beginning at midnight Saturday and lasting until 3 a.m. or whenever the last customer departs. The three mad merchants, whose sanity is being questioned, consist of Vel's Ford, DeVon Plymouth-Triumph, and Paul's Chevrolet, three friendly competitors, side by side. Representing the three outstanding low-priced cars, they are combining their efforts to bring Southern California the greatest automobile sale in the history of Torrance or any other community. In a sidewalk interview with the heads of the three companies, Dick Dimmette of DeVon Motors described, with a frightening gleam in his eye, the plans for this after-hours sale and the purpose of this midnight-to-dawn extravaganza. Cabrillo Ave. is going to be turned into a full-fledged nightmare. "This is not just a clearance sale, but an opportunity to show all of Southern California the type of dealers, the type of deals that can be made and the type of hospitality to be found on Cabrillo Ave. in downtown Torrance. Thousands of Southern Californians," he explained, "will be introduced to this tremendous three-fold automobile supermarket." According to Vel Miletich of Vel's Ford, "Among the three of us, we intend to sell 150 new automobiles (50 an hour) if we have to give them away. It will be a buyer's market, and the buyer will write his own ticket. If we can break even, he'll drive away in a new Ford, Plymouth, or Chevrolet. "And this is only the beginning," chirped the other squirrel, Ted Green of Paul's Chevrolet. "The three used-car lots will be sold out to the last car with the same sales policy prevailing. We can't go broke in three hours, so you name the terms!" The three mad automobile

## Jahn Asks For Report on Police, Fire Integration

### 32 on Second Chamber Tour of Hearst Castle; More Due

The second Chamber of Commerce tour to Hearst Castle, at San Simeon, returned last week after a most successful two-day event, according to special events chairman Bill Hanson. A 32-member group left before dawn Saturday and had breakfast in Ventura. Lunch was served at San Luis Obispo, and a private tour of Hearst Castle took place from 2 to 4 p.m. A banquet was held at the Hotel Inn in San Luis Obispo, where the group remained overnight. Following a Sunday morning brunch at the Hotel Inn, an early dinner was served at the famous Restaurant del Paseo, in Santa Barbara. They returned here at 4:30 p.m. Other Chamber-sponsored package tours to Hearst Castle are scheduled for March 5 and 6, March 26 and 27, and April 2 and 3. Those making the trip were Judge and Mrs. Otto Willett and son, Billy; Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Pyle; Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Averis; Glenn Koger, Mr. and Mrs. John Spalding, Mayor Albert Isen, Celia H. Young, Rose Tierney, Lester Cross, Lo Ree Roberts, Mollie and Olive Marshall, Mrs. Ed Scarborough, Clara Connors, Bertha Gries, Gladys Cady, Bernice Murphy, Lillian Heston, Lena Coder, Dorothy Mearing, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Butcher, Fred Benson, John Wallace, and Mr. and Mrs. Dick Fitzgerald.

### SANTA CLAUS TO VISIT CITY ON SATURDAY

Santa Claus will flee the ice and snow of polar regions to hold court under the sunny palm trees of California Saturday. Torrance children who have business with St. Nick will find him in La Romeria Park, 19300 Inglewood Ave., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. His visit is sponsored by the South West Park Civic Association.

### 1/2-YEAR CITY SALES TOP 10,000,000

Taxable retail sales in Torrance for the first six months of 1959 are over \$10,000,000, higher than a similar period in 1958, it was revealed in a Torrance Chamber of Commerce survey today. Torrance accounted for \$18,989,000 sales in the first quarter, compared to a 1958 total of only \$14,956,000 — an increase of more than \$4,000,000. The second-quarter figures were even more staggering — an increase of over \$6,000,000 over 1958 second-quarter figures. Sales were \$23,194,000 compared to 1958's \$17,061,000. President J. H. Paget of the Chamber added that taxable retail sales figures are vital to a community, since an incorporated city receives 1 percent of the figure. Thus Torrance's increase means the city will receive \$421,830 for the first six months of 1959, an increase of \$100,660 over the 1958 figure.

Councilman Robert B. Jahn, who recently asked City Manager George Stevens for a study of the efficacy of integrating the police and fire departments, today set forth his reasoning in an exclusive interview with The Press.

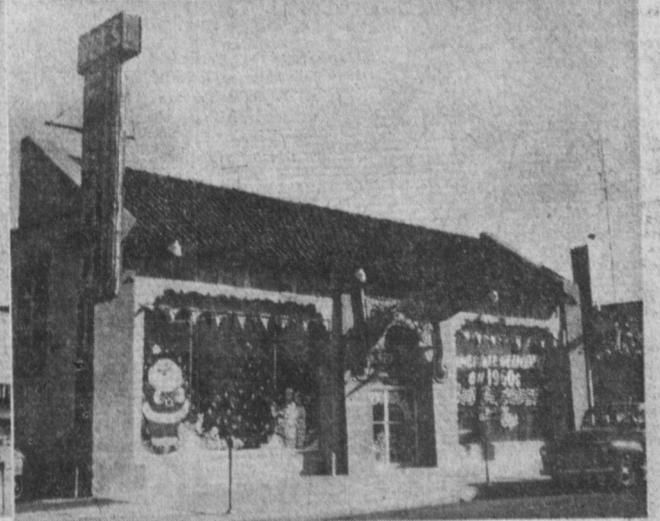
Integration, Jahn declared, would give the city considerably greater protection and at a reduced rate in taxes. Thirty-four cities now are testing integration, Jahn discovered, with favorable results. Of them, many are the size of Torrance. The Jahn plan would retain the present police and fire chiefs, and release far more men for active duty. Firemen would go on eight-hour shifts along with police officers. Each would be trained in the other's job. "This does not mean a fireman would become a policeman," Jahn declared. "But each would have rudimentary training in the alternate profession."

### Torrance C of C Asks Removal of Parking Meters

Torrance Chamber of Commerce directors have requested that the City Council remove all parking meters in downtown Torrance Jan. 1 for a four-month test. President J. H. Paget, said the board accepted a recommendation from its traffic and parking committee, under chairmanship of Abe Robinson, because of "tremendous confusion that exists because of differences of opinion regarding parking meters." He said he feels the test is a period that is necessary, because everyone seems to have a different opinion as to the necessity of the meters. "The only way we'll ever know if meters are a necessity or if they should be removed altogether," Paget said, "is to give the matter an honest test." He pointed out that the experiment would run through the Easter holidays which would indicate reaction in peak shopping periods and normal conditions. Robinson said the group feels the two-hour limit should remain. The two-hour limit is observed on the municipal parking lots, and would be unchanged if the chamber recommendation is approved. Another recommendation is that the city rush the issuance of \$4 monthly parking permits to merchants and their employees. The permits would allow all-day parking in the municipal lots.



GROUNDBREAKING RITE—Miss Torrance, Betty Baker, assists John R. Truab (left), manager of the Lomita Bank of America, Ralph F. Windsor, Ira E. Ogden and Harold G. Frenz in groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Torrance Bank of America, Carson and Main Sts. Costs will be \$275,000.



MAD CABRILLO MERCHANTS — Paul's Chevrolet (left), Dick Dimmette of DeVon Motors, and Vel's Ford will hold a midnight to dawn extravaganza complete with champagne, Spudnuts, and coffee Saturday on Cabrillo Ave. in downtown Torrance. A dozen klieg lights will highlight a mad auction at 2 a.m. Five

best-buy used cars will go to the highest bidders.

—Press Photos by Staff Photographer Art Wiley