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PRETTY DEBBIE BARDINI, 15 month old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dario Bardina, 1515 W. 214th St., smiles as she fondly handles a Christmas ornament while helping her parents decorate the tree for Santa's anticipated arrival at midnight. Debbie's father is employed by Torrance Men's Shop.

—Press Photo by Staff Photographer Art Willey

Police, Fire Integration Answered By De Armitt

Fire Union Chief Not for Merger

In an exclusive interview with the PRESS, Richard L. DeArmitt, president of Torrance Fire Fighters Local 1138, today made known his organization's views regarding integration of Fire and Police Departments.

Inspired by a story appearing in the Dec. 17 issue of the Press headlined "Jahn Asks For Report . . ." DeArmitt pointed out that his group is opposed to integration. "In the story printed by your newspaper Councilman Jahn outlined the following reason why he was for integration—'34 cities are testing integration of fire and police with favorable results and the plan would release far more men for active duty with firemen going on eight hour shifts along with police officers—each trained in the others job,'" DeArmitt explained.

The following is the complete text of DeArmitt's reply to Councilman Robert Jahn:

"Councilman Jahn does not state which cities he has in mind, however in various publications in recent years, eight California cities have been identified as having had integrated fire and police departments. In a survey completed Sept. 15, 1958 seven of these cities either categorically denied ever having integration or have abandoned the plan and are now operating separate and independent fire and police departments. The only department in California known to us that is now in any way integrated is in the City of Sunnyvale.

The fire and police departments in Sunnyvale are combined under one department head under which they operate as separate entities. The factual integration exists only in that some personnel are subject to rotation assignments to either fire or police duty.

The so-called "classic example" that most supporters of integration like to use is that of Oak Park, Michigan, a suburb of Detroit. There have been many reports made on Oak Park, colored of course by the views of the person or committee making the report. The facts are these: Oak Park is unique in that it is a new residential community with strict building laws which limit industrial and mercantile buildings to one story, and all other buildings to a maximum of two stories of not more than 36 feet in height. The basic principal of fire protection in Oak Park is the prompt arrival of one or two police cars manned by one or

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WILLY EDWARD SIVLEY

WANTED by the California Highway Patrol for hit and run felony is Willy Edward Sivley, 25, of 21716 South Figueroa St. According to authorities, suspect was involved in an accident injuring and hospitalizing Patrolman Esteo Adkins, 28, Friday, Dec. 18, at the intersection of Figueroa and Carson Sts. Sivley is a painter by trade and was wearing white clothes spattered with paint when last seen leaving the scene of the accident. If you have any information leading to his arrest, please contact the California Highway Patrol, NE 1-6101, or Torrance police at FA 8-3456.

Bradford, 17 Year Veteran With City Retires from Post



WALTER C. BRADFORD

Walter C. Bradford, 66, City Personnel Clerk and Secretary for the Civil Service Board, retired today after 17 years' of service to the city.

A native of New Haven, Conn., Bradford came to Torrance in January of 1922 and began work with the Dominguez Land Corp. In 1942 he went to work for the City of Torrance as building and engineering department clerk under city engineering and building inspector Glenn M. Jain.

It was then that he took the position of Civil Service Board Secretary, a position he still holds today.

"There were only three other people in the two departments when I began," recalled Bradford. "It has been fascinating watching the city grow from a population of 3000 to its present size," he added.

He received well-wishes and gifts from fellow workers and city officials at a party held in his honor at City Hall Tuesday.

Bradford was the recipient of a wallet and money along with an electric eye camera which he says will see a lot of service in the near future as he plans to travel through Europe and the eastern United States.

Is There a Santa Claus?

Sixty two years ago this week New York Sun editor, Francis P. Church received a letter from an eight year old "subscriber" that asked if there was a Santa Claus.

The letter, written by Virginia O'Hanlon in 1897, and its answer by the learned editor, was published in the Sun just before the Christmas of that year. Other newspapers throughout the country and the world picked it up and today it stands famous as a classic answer to all the disbelievers, young and old, of St. Nick.

The PRESS, a firm advocate of Mister Santa Claus, publishes the letter and its answer today for all in Torrance to better understand the full meaning of Christmas.

"Dear Editor — I am 8 years old. "Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. "Papa says 'If you see it in The Sun it's so.' "Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?" VIRGINIA O'HANLON 115 W. 95th St.

VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They think that nothing can be which is not com-

prehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, and ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge. Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. A last

how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

No 'Dope' in Torrance, Says Mayor

Before closing an abbreviated Christmas session of the Torrance City Council, Mayor Albert Isen blasted the Metropolitan newspapers for involving Torrance in the recent dope raid.

Mayor Isen made it clear that he was unhappy with the various press organizations whose news stories said the raid was on a Torrance home when it actually occurred in the County strip.

"That area is no more a part of Torrance than Santa Monica is," said Isen. "It burns me to see the Metropolitan papers constantly referring to the 'strip' area as Torrance in their news stories — especially when the stories are in such an unfavorable light as this one," he said.



PEACEFUL LOOKING home at 2115 Bolsa St. was scene of \$90,000 worth of compressed marijuana confiscated by State Narcotics officers last Saturday. The 385 pounds of dope was

hidden in the garage. News agencies and TV reported location as Torrance, however, home is located in L.A. County strip area. Press Photo by Art Willey

Neighbors Suspicious of "Torrance" Dope Den

By Gary Palmer

The \$90,000 marijuana haul uncovered by state narcotics agents in conjunction with Los Angeles Police Saturday, was not made in Torrance as reported by TV and news agencies earlier in the week.

The dope raid occurred at the home of Edmund Barnett at 2115 Bolsa St. in the Los Angeles County strip.

Most of Barnett's neighbors were not surprised to hear of his arrest. Mrs. Eleanor Norte of 21105 Bolsa St. said her landlady told her marijuana was being harbored in a garage down the street. Mrs. Norte said she did not realize it was the Bar-

nett home however. "I've only lived here a month, and the Barnett children sometimes played with my children," she said. "Her children came to my house the day the police came, and they were crying and scared," she added.

John Koetsier, owner of the dairy at 21202 Bolsa St. said, "When I read it in the papers, I told my wife that it must be the Barnett family. They spent an awful lot of money fixing around the house. They didn't work regular hours and would come and go at the oddest times. I knew something was unusual,

but I didn't know it was narcotics," Mr. Koetsier said.

Another neighbor, Freeman Smith, 70, who formerly worked for a Los Angeles detective agency, said he knew something was going on from the minute they moved in.

"I told my wife I thought they had narcotics and she told me to keep my nose out of it or I might get killed," he said.

"There was always traffic and women at that place, and you couldn't help but be suspicious. Cars came up and down the street at all hours of the day and night. I counted nine cars in front of that place at one

time," Mr. Smith said.

Mrs. Harlin Engle of 21136 Bolsa St. said she has lived there for two years and has never suspected anything. "There's an awful lot of traffic on this street," she said, "but I never thought anything of it.

Another woman, Mrs. James Cox, also said she knew nothing of Barnett's activities. "I don't go out visiting the neighbors," she stated.

State Narcotics Supervisor A. V. Beckner said Barnett is the leader of a narcotics ring with a connection in Tijuana. He was arrested on charges of selling the dope along with Eugene Valencia of Los Angeles.