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## Mayor in Fury, Calls Attack on Council, Police Gutter Politics



TOP WORKER—Jeanne Gerald receives from the donor at special award meeting Jay A. Robinson residential-drive trophy and banquet. She was tops in quota.

### Says Entire City Was Slandered

**Barton's Outburst 'For Lunatic Fringe,' Police Chief Unruffled**

A scathing attack on the City Council and police department by a Walteria man running for a council seat today was called gutter politics by Mayor Albert Isen.

The Mayor blew his top upon reading an assault by John Barton which declared the City Council was putting "political pressure" on the police.

Police Chief Percy G. Bennett declined to recognize the outburst as worthy of notice. He called it absurd, then on second thought said it wasn't even that. "I have always deplored gutter politics," Isen told The Press. "Now we appear to have some irresponsible candidates who don't stop at stooping to personality attacks."

"This is a slander on an entire city and could do harm to our good name and the reputation for good government we have had for so many years."

The Mayor said this sort of thing could be a sad ad for the All-America City.

"This is the type of outburst that appeals to the lunatic fringe of the people. Thank heaven we have none of that element in Torrance."

Mayor Isen referred to a plaque presented to Chief Bennett by the City Council last month. "That declares our confidence in the chief, the police, and the fine job they are doing. To my knowledge that sentiment has not changed."

### Parents Invited to Meeting at South High

Parents of incoming ninth-grade students are being invited to a meeting in the South High School gym. Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. to learn about their children's progress next year.

The principal and his administrative staff will discuss the classroom program, activities, athletics, and other aspects of the high-school activity.

Following the meeting, parents from each elementary school will meet as a group with a freshman home-room teacher. These sessions will give parents an opportunity to discuss specific matters with a teacher.

Eighth-grade students may attend with their parents.

### Mother's Club Elects Officers

The Mother's Club of the Torrance Central Pony League elected the following officers at a recently held meeting it was announced today by league spokesman Harriet Tiedeman.

The members chose Mrs. Carl Backlund as president; Mrs. Carl Meadows as vice-president; and Mrs. John Marshall as secretary-treasurer.

### CAR CLUBS' INSPECTION SET TODAY

About 80 members of car clubs sponsored by the Torrance Police Department will gather for inspection at the Sears Del Amo parking lot today at 9 a.m.

The inspection will continue as long as it takes to handle all cars. Registration will close at noon.

The event, arranged by Detective A. L. Jackson, club adviser, will cover all aspects of keeping cars in top condition—from brakes to polished tail pipes. Drivers also will be scrutinized for neatness and attitude.

Traffic Officer Don Hartel is in charge of inspections.



CAMPAIGN STARTS—Clown hands out balloons throughout downtown area Friday as City Council race moves into high gear. Rose Craig with principal backers, Mary Ackerman, are at rear of photo. Mrs. Ackerman distributed stickers.



HONORED—Jim Becker (right) received special plaque for best volunteer group in L.A. area from Glenn Koger, board chairman. Plaque will remain until next campaign.

### N. TORRANCE GROUP PLANS SPRING DANCE

Plans for a gala spring dance May 21 have been completed by the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association.

The dance committee of Thirvin Fleetwood, John Donohue, and Jeff Bell said the dance will sponsor a PONY League team.

The dance will be held Saturday May 21, at the VFW hall, Market and Western Ave., Gardena, and will feature the band of Tommy Dragna.

Tickets may be obtained from members of the NTCIA.

### Carson Work to Start

Improvement of Carson St. east of Main St. in the Dominguez area will begin this week, it was announced by Supervisor Burton W. Chase.

### Torrance Chest Workers Win Awards at 1959 Harbor Fete

Givers and volunteer leaders shared the spotlight at the annual Harbor Area Community Chest award meeting Thursday at the Plush Horse.

More than 300 attended to receive plaudits for their part in the Harbor area 1959 Community Chest appeal that raised \$109,765.

Jim Becker, Torrance manager, Southern California Gas Co., was area chairman of the meeting.

For his leadership as chairman of the Harbor campaign, he received a special plaque from Glenn Koger, board chairman, and for enrolling the best volunteer organization in the Los Angeles area, he earned an additional trophy that will remain in the Harbor area until the next campaign.

Harbor campaign trophies were presented to the following

volunteers for highest percentage of quota: Frode B. Kilstofte advance-gift trophy to George Zugsmith, M. D., San Pedro; Jay A. Robinson residential trophy to Jeanne Gerald, North Torrance; and Spinak commerce and industry trophy to Dick Burt, Gardena.

Gold Oscar winners announced included Peggy Booth, Wilmington; Mrs. Joseph Morillo, Gardena; and Mrs. Gerald, North Torrance, all residential unit chairmen reaching 100%; Ed Russ, Gardena city Chest chairman, highest percentage of quota; and Ben Rittgers, business division chairman in San Pedro, first to reach 100%.

Area campaign leaders earning special awards were Bert Lynn, Torrance, commerce and industry chairman; Fred Mill, Torrance vice chairman; Rose-

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### Downtown TV Store Looted of Small Radios

Thieves hit the Gans TV store in the heart of downtown early yesterday morning and made off with a carload of transistor and portable radios, plus all the money left in the cash drawer.

The entry was discovered by John Pickering, repairman, when he opened the store at 8:45. The establishment is located in a well-lighted area at 1409 Crevens Ave.

This was the second time burglars have broken into the store within six weeks. Last time they broke a window. Yesterday's method of entry was with a pry bar at the front door.

### Rites Scheduled Tomorrow for Hattie E. Gray

Hattie E. Gray, 63, died Wednesday. Mrs. Gray has resided 16 years at 1333 W. 251st St., Harbor City.

She leaves her husband, Erwin N., one son, Erwin Jr. of Long Beach, a daughter, Hattie E. Converse of Oregon. Three sisters, two brothers, all residing in Oregon, and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. from A. M. Gamby Funeral Home in Lomita. Burial will be in Green Hills Memorial Cemetery.

### Chamber Names Don H. Hyde Industrial Committee Leader

Don H. Hyde, civic leader and long-time Torrance resident, has been appointed chairman of the industrial committee of the Chamber of Commerce, it was announced today by President J. H. Paget.

Hyde, superintendent of Industrial relations of United States Steel's Columbia-Geneva division, has lived in Torrance since 1938, moving here following graduation from Marietta College in Ohio. He was born in Sharpsville, Pa.

Under Hyde's leadership, chamber leaders are predicting a continuation of the city and chamber's aggressive program of industrial development that has brought nationwide fame to Torrance.

Hyde is a member of the Rotary Club, the Los Angeles University Club Personnel Group, Torrance Personnel Group, past president of the Torrance Dental Health Association, and a past director and sustaining member of Torrance YMCA.



DON. H. HYDE

Hyde and his wife, who is a native daughter of California, live at 1537 El Prado with their two daughters, Lynn, 17, and Gail, 14.

### Jaycee Parley Due Thursday

Rich Gerald, chairman of the Torrance Junior Chamber-sponsored political forum to be held Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Torrance High School auditorium, said virtually all candidates for City Council will be present. Short talks will be presented

by all candidates, followed by questions from the audience.

Bill Holms, chairman of the Jaycee practical-politics program, will be moderator.

This meeting is free and open to the public.

### First Campaign Coffee Hour Set for Rose Craig

Mary Ackerman will be host to friends of Rose Craig tomorrow from 10 to noon at her home, 5215 Ruby in the Southwood subdivision.

Mrs. Ackerman said all women who are backing Mrs. Craig in her race for a City Council seat are being entertained.

Provisions have been made to entertain children while parents meet their candidate and discuss plans for promoting her campaign. Coffee and other refreshments will be served.

The event, the first of social functions to be held as the council campaign moves into full swing, was preceded by a clown handing out balloons and bumper stickers throughout the city Friday night, under direction of Mrs. Ackerman.

### Candidates to Speak

All 16 candidates for the City Council are being invited to express their views at an April 7 meeting of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association at 8 p.m. in McMaisters Hall, 174th and Yukon, it was announced by Margaret Clark, president.

People of North Torrance will meet the candidates and hear their platforms.

All residents and homeowners of North Torrance may attend.



WINNERS—Pinewood Derby preliminaries at Perry Elementary School resulted in these winners: Charles Reed, best design; Larry Carrier, third place; Lyle Boeck, second; John Murski, first. They were members of Cub Scout Troop 953.