

Civil Service Commission Reaches Decision on Fireman's Vote Violation



NEW OFFICERS—Robert Weister, incipient senior; Judie Sherwood, student body; and Danney George, sophomore, are among new officers elected at Torrance High School.



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City Council to Be Told on Tuesday

DeArmitt Can Be Dismissed, Punished or Found Not Guilty

The Civil Service Commission has reached a decision on the dismissal of Fireman Richard DeArmitt, charged with actively participating in last April's city election.

The decision, which will be announced at the City Council session Tuesday night, could set a precedent in defining "active political participation" in California. None yet has been set.

On strength of the evidence presented to the commission last week, that body may have decided to find DeArmitt not guilty. His defense counsel, Joseph Taback, presented a strong case, citing U.S. court precedents in definitions of active participation.

In this event, no action would be taken by the City Council, although the city's legal department, at insistence of Fire Chief J. J. Benner and City Manager George Stevens, can appeal to the courts.

It is more likely that the commission may have found DeArmitt guilty, since by his own admission he violated the city ordinance and state statute.

However, so many mitigating circumstances were introduced that the commission hardly could conscientiously vote for a heavy penalty.

The group also has the option of firing DeArmitt, in which event he would, with backing of at least two Fire Fighters unions, appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary to obtain a reversal.

This would be a long and tedious process in which the fireman could lose out, for, sharp as is his defense counsel, he might run afoul—at least indirectly—of Robert Dower, Torrance's trial attorney, in which event it would be no garden of sweets for the opposition.

Furthermore, DeArmitt admitted the violation. The defense rests on the argument that the law is being unconstitutionally enforced since so many Civil Service employees have violated it even more flagrantly.

Taback presented heavy evidence that DeArmitt has been singled out for a tooth of retribution, but none was presented to prove he did not in fact violate the law.

The City Council will have the option of reducing any penalty, should there be a penalty. But it cannot increase any punishment ordered by the Civil Service Commission.



CHEST LEADERS—James Visceglia of Palos Verdes, Jim Becker of Torrance, Fred Mill of Palos Verdes and John Chadwick and Frode Kilstofte, Wilmington, at Chest fete.

Censors Ask More Power in Torrance

Torrance's censor group, which undertakes to pass on how newsstand operators will offer their merchandise for sale, Tuesday will ask the City Council to expand it to four times its present size.

The Committee for Decent Literature now is operating with three active members, according to Dr. Don Cortum, the chairman, who is the most active.

He wants the council to expand the guardians to 12, filling the membership with church and club people. In a letter to the council, Cortum said all his nominees have expressed an interest in becoming active in the group.

The censors, who claim they want only to decide what children should read, are seeking laws to prevent newsstand operators from displaying magazines which they do not approve.

Their program at present is at worst to threaten the operator with boycott if he does not conform to the committee's wishes.

The committee suffered a crushing defeat in debate with a noted attorney and psychologist recently in Lawndale. The group, in operation, since 1957, has confessed it never has invited nor listened to an expert in the field they are struggling to control.

City's Recreation Roundup Will Start Thursday

A registration round-up for varied activities planned by the Torrance Recreation Department this summer is scheduled for June 2 through 9.

"We've worked out what we believe is a diversified program designed for persons of all ages and interests," declared Recreation Director Harry Van Bellehen.

He said facilities are limited for some activities, making it advisable for persons to register early for the programs in which they are interested.

Registration for all activities will be taken at Benstead Plunge from June 2 through 5. Sign-ups for all programs other than children's swim lessons will be taken June 6 through 9 at the department offices, 1511 Cravens Ave. Detailed information may be obtained by phoning the offices at FA 8-4108 weekdays between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Here is the recreational and cultural bill of fare being offered this summer:

CRAFTS—Children's puppet company, June 22 and July 20; Austrian crafts for children, June 21, July 5, July 19 and Aug. 2; Puppetry class, June 22, July 6, 20, Aug. 3; Adult mosaics, June 20 and Aug. 8; Childrens mosaic panel, weekly. All at Arts & Crafts Center, 22730 Lupine Dr.

FOR TEEN-AGERS—Trips to Southland points of interest, starting with Disneyland outing on June 16; Golf lessons at eight parks starting June 27 at El Retiro; Modern dance lessons at seven parks starting June 27 at El Nido; Girl's softball leagues at various parks; Talent shows at Torrance Park bandshell on Sundays; Teen-age Golf Club at Sea-Aire Golf Course; competitive swim meets and swimming classes at Benstead Plunge.

CAMPING—Chippewa Pow-Wow Day Camp sessions at El Retiro Park, July 26-30; Torrance Park, Aug. 2 through 6; El Nido Park, Aug. 9 through 13; Camp Clatawa mountain outing, Aug. 20 through 27. A traveling day camp will tour play areas in July.

AQUATICS—Children's learn-to-swim classes at Benstead Plunge, sessions start June 13, 27, July 11, 25, Aug. 8 and 22. Competitive swim classes for youth, June 20 through Aug. Youth swim classes start June 13, July 11 and Aug. 8. Junior and senior life-saving classes begin June 20 and July 25.

Synchronized swim classes June 14 through July 14. Adult evening swim classes start June 14, July 12 and Aug. 9. (Registrations should

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Welfare Federation Elects Torrance Men to Top Posts

Harbor area representatives to the Welfare Federation of Los Angeles Area were elected this week at the annual meeting of this organization, which conducts the Community Chest campaign.

Glenn Koger, vice president and general manager, Rome Cable Co., and chairman, Harbor Area board, was elected to the board of directors of the Welfare Federation as

spokesman for the Harbor area.

Several community and Chest agency representatives were named to serve on the 240-member board of governors.

More than 600 persons from the Los Angeles area attended the meeting at the Statler-Hilton.

Walter W. Candy Jr., presi-

(Continued on page A-2)

Three Torrance Students Win Top Awards in Bank Contest

A North High School senior was one of the top award winners and two other Torrance students won cash awards in the finals of the 1960 Bank of America Achievement Awards program for Los Angeles County schools.

Rochelle Baumgarten, 4023 West 176th St., won \$1000 first prize in vocational arts. Judy Sheets, also a North senior, won \$100 in fine arts, and Michael Robbins, South High, won \$100 in science and mathematics.

They received their awards from Jesse W. Tapp, chairman of the bank's board of directors, at a banquet Wednesday night, May 25, attended by more than 700 persons at the Statler-Hilton.

These students were among 32 finalists from the county's public, private and parochial schools outside Los Angeles City Schools system who won a total of \$9000 in cash prizes. The city system is in a separate division and its winners

were given similar awards May 11.

Civic leaders judged the winners earlier in the day, observing and judging as the students took part without advance preparation in group discussions on topics related to their studies. The students already had survived weeks of competitions in their own schools and against other schools in their zones, being scored on scholarship, leadership and outside activities.

The banquet speaker was Dr. William S. Meyer, pastor of Immanuel Presbyterian Church, who spoke on "We Are the Pioneers." Paul Sanders, manager of the bank's Santa Monica branch, was

present. The bank paid \$64,200 to winners in six divisions throughout the state and presented 1650 gold trophies and more than 5000 certificates of achievement to outstanding seniors from virtually all the state's high schools.

Student Body Chooses New Panels at Torrance High

The Torrance High School Student Body elections were held last Thursday, under supervision of Judie Sherwood, Student Body vice president, and G. E. Johnston, student-activities adviser.

Assisting in the elections were 30 members of the California Scholarship Federation who were judges.

Judie Sherwood, running unopposed, was elected Student Body president for the fall semester.

Gerald Goins was elected vice president in a run-off contest. Other ASB officers are Howard Taylor, student-court judge; Kimiye Takeuchi, commissioner of records; Sharonne Mascola, commissioner of finance; Joanne Carr, commissioner of pep; Judy Meadows, commissioner of activities; Carol Porterfield, commissioner of publicity; and Charlene Alarcon, commissioner of group control.

The class of 1961 elected Robert Weister president and Gerald Goins vice president. Linda Grubb was selected as secretary, and Gracie Connert treasurer.

Court representatives elected were Tom Kasterko and Sachi Ishihari. The Girls' League Representative is Patty Woodman.

Jerry McLean won the presidency of next year's junior class. Others are Randy Blair, vice president; Judith Minor, secretary; and Roxanne Barnard, treasurer.

The class elected Loretta

Kennedy and Bruce Norman court representatives. Sharonne Mascola and Fred Sachs were elected the league representatives.

Next year's sophomore class chose Danny George president and Richard Masaki vice president. Loretta Linderman gained the office of secretary, and Joanne Sprout the treasurer's post.

Court representatives will be Patrick Burdick and Carol Mishler, League representatives are Ivor Samson and Eilene Muranaka.

Girls voted in the following officers for Girls' League: Joanne IsBell, president; Joanne Carr, vice president; Sharon Campbell, secretary; Donna Thistle, treasurer; and Maxine Ihara, historian-reporter.

Bob Mullen and Jim Carter, both running unopposed, are Boys' League president and vice president.

The revised student-body constitution was approved by the students by a three-to-one vote. The revision had no major changes, but was brought up to date and many points clarified.

The 1961 yell leaders were elected by the student body. Roxanne Barnard, Barbara Campbell, Judy Minor, and Jerry Yancey won these positions.

The newly elected Student Council will be installed at a special assembly program. Installing officer will be M. L. Caldwell, assistant principal.

Fleeing Thief Lobs Bottles at Store Manager

A thief who stole whisky from a market Wednesday used his loot to stall the pursuing manager.

Dave Thompson, manager of the Lucky Market at Sepulveda Blvd. and Hawthorne Ave., said he saw the thief leaving the store with four bottles under his arm.

When Thompson gave chase through the parking lot, the thief tossed the bottles at the manager and made his get-away.

VALUES WILL RAIN FROM HEAVEN

It will be raining ping-pong balls over Torrance next Thursday between 10 and 11 a.m.

The spheres will contain bonus certificates worth from \$1 to \$5 at downtown stores, it was disclosed by Abe Robinson, chairman of the sponsoring Downtown Merchants' Association.

Downtown stores are featuring special value attractions during this Summer Shower of Values Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

College Still Won't Say Why Teacher Fired

Reviewing its action in firing instructor Robert B. Schlihs, the El Camino College board of trustees today released a statement.

Dr. Wallace H. Fraser, president, stated, "Many people in the community have expressed concern that the action of the college board of trustees was based upon the fact that Mr. Schlihs had been subpoenaed to appear before the House un-American Activities Committee."

"For the information of those people, the board wishes to state that the fact that Mr. Schlihs was subpoenaed to appear before the House un-American Activities Committee was not the basis of its action."

He did not say what the basis was.

Public reaction was first voiced Monday night in the regular meeting of the college Board. At that time representatives of the community, faculty and student body addressed the Board.

Students Hold Dance Festival

Nearly 550 students took part in a spring dance festival Friday morning at Yukon School, presenting American dances and many from Europe.

Each room presented a different type of dance. Included were dances from England, Spain, Scotland, Ireland, and America. The performances were climaxed by seven girls doing the Charleston and the entire student body dancing off the assembly area in a giant bunny hop.

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LEARNING MISSILES — Jimmy Lowerison and Mark Harrison get lowdown on missiles from Sgt. Gayle Palmer, one of soldiers

who took part in flag-raising at Casimir School this week. Palmer also gave a talk on missiles and space ego for pupils.



WINNERS — Rochelle Baumgarten, Judy Sheets and Michael Robbins receive checks from Jesse W. Tapp, chairman of the board, in Bank of America awards program.

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