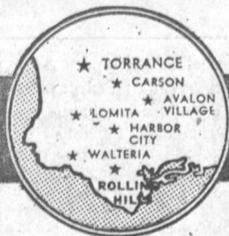


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SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 1960

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# Vandalism Soars In City Schools

## School Board Appoints Three New Principals

Three new principals, three vice principals and a new curriculum consultant were named this week by the Torrance Board of Education, Dr. J. H. Hull, school superintendent, announced today.

Donald K. Duncan, Riviera Elementary principal, was chosen become a curriculum consultant, filling a post left

vacant by the death of Dr. W. Craig Thomas. Duncan, 33, head of the Riviera School for the past four years, formerly served as principal of Carr School.



DONALD DUNCAN  
... consultant

A graduate of Compton College and USC, Duncan is a navy veteran and a mem-

ber of the Torrance YMCA board of managers. He is married, has two children, and resides at 1731 Mira Costa, San Pedro.

Roy J. Adamson, Madrona teacher for the past three years, will assume his new post as Riviera principal this fall. An Air Force veteran, Adamson left his business career and obtained his teaching credential in 1958. He is married and resides at 210 Manor Dr., Hawthorne.

Philip Korman, summer principal at Lincoln, will move to Anza Elementary School, replacing Carl Shaner, who resigned recently. A vice principal at Meadow Park and Fren-Greenwood Schools, Korman, 33, previously taught in Chicago. He has a master's degree from Northwestern University. Also an Air Force veteran, Korman resides with his wife and two children at 22622 Hickory in Torrance.

New principal of the recently opened Towers School will be Richard Groshong, Paramount teacher and vice principal for the past four years. A director of the Los Angeles YWCA for five



PHILIP KORMAN  
... Anza

years, Groshong is a native of Oregon. He has degrees from Chapman College and USC. Married and with two children, Groshong lives in Bellflower.

New vice principals for the year include Mrs. Ellen B. Booz, Seaside, Earnest E. Thom Jr., Fern-Greenwood, and William E. Leahy, Riviera.

Mrs. Booz, former teacher at North High, Sepulveda and Riviera Schools, spent the past year on a sabbatical leave study reading techniques. She is a graduate of Carthage, Ill. College and Chicago Teachers' College. She and her husband and daughter live at 2237 Carriage Dr., Rolling Hills.

Navy veteran Thom, 36, former Hillside teacher, is a graduate of El Camino College and USC. He and his wife reside at 2501 Bowfin, San Pedro.

Summer principal at Yukon School, Leahy, 35, taught and served as acting principal at Leland St. School, San Pedro.

He has a master's degree from USC. An Air Force veteran, he and his wife and two children reside at 1903 Santa Rena Dr., San Pedro.

The school year 1960-61 will open with the largest enrollment in the history of Torrance. Superintendent Hull declared. Approximately 27,000 youngsters are anticipated, he announced.

## R. Caccamese Murder Case Slated Aug. 19

Part time bartender and die-sinker, 23-year-old Richard Russell Caccamese, accused with the slaying of Madeline May Acevedo, also 23, of Torrance, was held to answer a charge of first degree murder, and arraignment was set in the Inglewood Superior Court Aug. 19.

The charge carries with it a mandatory death sentence. Caccamese, meanwhile, is being held in the county jail. Bail was set by Judge John Schilder at the South Municipal Court at \$21,000.

Caccamese, nicknamed "Lucky" by his associates, had been employed by the Proto Tool Company, 2209 South Santa Fe, prior to his arrest.

Police stated Caccamese shot his girlfriend, Mrs. Acevedo, with whom he was living at the time, then shot himself in the arm to turn suspicion away from himself.

Death of the young woman was due to a gunshot wound, causing head and brain injuries, Dr. Don Mills, who performed the autopsy, reported. Dr. Mills removed the bullet from the left front part of the brain. "The wound was not self-inflicted," Dr. Mills stated.

## Editorial

The story is told of the father whose daughter had long reached marriageable age but there were no suitors. Pitching a potential husband to marry the girl, the father went on at great length extolling her virtues. She was beautiful and talented and he would give a handsome dowry. "What's wrong with the girl?" the boy finally asked. "Oh, nothing, but she is a little bit pregnant."

Similarly, the city government of Torrance, notwithstanding the fact that it may be beautiful or talented, cannot afford to be a "little bit pregnant."

This nagging thought of the constant vigil to maintain complete purity in government is brought to the fore by the current water main scandal, turned on by Mayor Al Isen.

The issue revolves around former Councilman Robert Jahn, hired to construct a 20-unit apartment for City Councilman William Blount. Apparently, Jahn obtained preferential treatment by Water Superintendent Angus McVicker, depositing only a fraction of the money required by the city for water main extension. The Mayor, goaded by an alert civic consciousness, asked for a complete report. The report turned in this week by City Manager George Stevens was termed vague and incomplete and hurled back to Stevens by an irate mayor.

The Mayor, with the full support of the City Council, underscored a basic policy: There can be no secrecy in local government or favoritism if government is to have the full support of its citizens.

The issue here is fundamental. It is one which demands a full showdown and a full inquiry. Department heads, whether in public works, water, engineering or city planning, cannot be permitted to grow lax on the job or maneuver to built little empires. Responsible men holding responsible jobs, they must report to the city manager, who must keep the city council and the mayor apprised of every action which affects the material well-being of the community. Favoritism in the city hall, as favoritism in the family, has no place.

Goodness does not imply saccharine religiosity or smashing bars with Carrie Nation hatchets. It does mean a sense of moral behavior, in person as well as on the job.

When the three witches: sloppiness, indifference and a "why-not" attitude, enter city government, the public suffers, for freedom, like a high sense of moral purpose, is not a sometime thing. The city government cannot afford the luxury of being a "little bit pregnant."



WALLY POLLOCK  
... Home Owners Proxy

## Victor Park Area Urged as Library Site by Citizens

Gathering at Bishop Montgomery High School in an organizational meeting this week, members of the Torrance Property Owners Association voted a unanimous resolution requesting the Torrance Library Commission locate its new addition in Victor Park.

Victor Park, near Anza and Emerald, should be the site of the proposed \$45,000 library addition, spokesmen maintained, "for it is the geographical center of West Torrance, and some of the land is already owned by the city."

The association also elected three new officers to direct activities for the coming year. They include Wally Pollock, 5306 Maricopa, president; Roland Appel, 20525 Wood St., vice-president; and Peter Boonstra, 3833 Spencer St., secretary-treasurer.

These men represent the three elements comprising Torrance property owners, outgoing President Charles Deck declared. "They speak for new home owners, those who have lived in Torrance several years, and the large land owner group."

A number of civic officials, including spokesmen for the school board, addressed the gathering.

## Electronics Firm Holds Open House

Magnavox Research Laboratories, 2829 Maricopa St., will stage an open house for employees, their families and Richard Prescott presided noon, 2 to 5 p.m. in conjunction with the dedication of the firm's new plant, officials announced.

The electronics firm's \$3,500,000 plant will eventually grow to four times the present size, Dr. Ragnar Thorensen, laboratory manager, announced today.

Dr. Thorensen directs the work of some 200 in the Torrance plant.

## Officials Report Damage Mounts Into Thousands

The high cost of vandalism, malicious mischief done to school buildings as well as private property, was scored today as civic officials voiced mounting concern over soaring damage costs inflicted on the city by restless youths.

More than \$25,000 worth of vandalism and breakage faced city fathers during the past year, and "it is not letting up from every indication," officials said.

Torrance police and school officials report a never ceasing rampage of broken windows, slides ripped out of their concrete beds in play-



VANDALISM—wreckage, damage, juveniles out on a lark, is causing growing civic concern as youths smash school buildings resulting in thousands of dollars of repair bills.

grounds and toppled over, desks ransacked, faucets in washrooms and kitchens turned on and the sinks plugged, permitting water to flood rooms, orange juice and soda spilled on church hymnals, soap spilled over church altars, light globes smashed and hoses taken from custodian quarters, turned on in teachers' offices, and left running all night. Some vandals ripped clocks from walls, cut off the electric cords and stomped on the plastic cases, police announced.

"If these juveniles are apprehended, their parents are made to pay for the damage," Lt. Gus Rethwisch, Torrance Juvenile Division chief, announced, "but catching them is another problem."

The problem revolves around the fact that youngsters don't have enough to occupy their time in the summer, Lt. Dethwisch stated. "Parents are not completely to blame, but they still must hammer respect for other peoples' property in their kids' heads," he warned.

"The apprehension rate is mediocre, Lt. Rethwisch deplored.

This is a growing problem in Torrance, as it is in many communities throughout the entire South Bay area and throughout the county, police officials pointed out.

"Any youngster is capable of mischief. He has too much time on his hands, he takes on a dare, he thinks it is smart to smash a window and another one, and before you know what has happened, the city has thousands of dollars of damage to pay," he declared.

Although Torrance school officials are conducting a year-around campaign to incorporate pride in their schools by youngsters it is "an uphill struggle," teachers declare. The "roughest" age is the 10 to 13 elementary group, and every parent's help is sought in halting this blight on Torrance," officials declared.

## Two Men Suffer Burns in Tank Explosion Here

Two men, working at Ken-tile Corporation, California and Maple Streets, Torrance, suffered second and third degree burns late Friday when the tank they were welding exploded, police department officials reported.

The men, Willard Cook, 1103 W. 134th Place, Gardena, and Willie Brown, 3145 Coolidge St., Long Beach, were rushed to Torrance Memorial Hospital.

Joe O'Connor, tank foreman, said the men were welding on top of the tank with a cutting torch. The 20 foot

high tank, 12 feet diameter, contained 10,000 gallons of asphalt. Apparently a spark from the workmen's cutting torch ignited some gasses that escaped from the tank, setting off the explosion.

The tank is a product of the National Tank Co., 8201 Santa Fe Ave., Huntington Park.

The men, burned about the face, arms and trunks of their bodies, are out of shock. Drs. Woodrow Weiss and Paul H. Goodley announced. Recovery is expected to take a month.

## Victims Seek Helping Hand

Log-rolling, home building, community canning, hog-killing, sewing bees—are all part of the American tradition of the original "people to people" movement that built America. The modern version is helping people to help themselves. In this context, Torrance newcomers, the George Charbonneau, 122 E. 222nd St., this week looked forward to a neighboring hand to get them started on the road to self-sufficiency.

The father of four children, David, 9, 14-year-old twins, Cheryl and Charon, and Richard, 16, George Charbonneau unfortunately, along with Richard and Cheryl, suffer from muscular dystrophy.

A disease which wastes away the muscles, which can strike any family without discrimination, muscular dystrophy has no known cause to date, nor any known cure. All medical men can do is to try to retain the use of the muscles remaining. Treatment consists of physical therapy. More than a quarter million victims of muscular dystrophy are scattered throughout the country.

A wobbly gait, inability to perform the simple functions which everyone takes for granted—feeding and dressing oneself—and the final blow—inability to earn a living—are the extreme penalties awarded muscular dystrophy victims.

Charbonneau, 42, who came to California from Min-

## Two Torrance Teenagers Win U. C. Scholarships

Charlene MacLachlan, 3324 W. 182nd St., and Gerald Lynn Reynolds, 22302 Red-burn Ave., two well known young Torrance people, have been awarded undergraduate scholarships, the University of California at Berkeley announced today.

Averaging \$400 each, the

Lachlans have two other children, twin daughters Kathy and Denise, 6.

Reynolds, 19, graduated from North Torrance High School in 1959 and has completed one year at Berkeley. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Reynolds, he has also received an \$850 scholarship award-



A LOOK OF PRIDE reflects itself on young Torrance teenagers Gerald Reynolds and Charlene MacLachlan, who look forward to a year at University of California, Berkeley, with newly-won scholarships.

scholarships were granted on the basis of academic achievement and promise. Miss MacLachlan won a Regents Scholarship, and Reynolds received the Nellie M. Lowry Scholarship.

Charlene, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ian MacLachlan, graduated from North High School in 1959. She attended El Camino College for her freshman year. During her high school career, she served as president of the "Julians," girls' service organization, as a flag twirler, and received a leadership award.

She is interested in piano and water skiing, and will major in math. The Mac-

ed by the Carnation Company to outstanding employees' children.

President of "Valiants" boys' service organization at North High School during his time there, he is interested in photography and stamp collecting, and plans to major in history, eventually to become a teacher.

Reynolds has a brother, Douglas, 18, who graduated from South High School in 1960, and a sister, Nancy, 17, senior in South High School. Both Reynolds parents are employed, his father as a milk route salesman, and his mother at Reynolds Metal Co. in Torrance.



SAMARITAN WANTED—Awaiting a helping hand from any good citizen in the area,

the Charbonneau family, victims of muscular dystrophy, want to get on their feet.

(Continued on Page A3)