



# TORRANCE PRESS

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## Snarled Roadway Embroils Drivers

### Residents Renew Pleas for Help

By HAROLD HAWKINS  
Staff Writer

TORRANCE — Controversy raged anew this week over a traffic snarled intersection in Hollywood Riviera. But despite concern over muddled driving at the triple intersection of Palos Verdes Blvd., Catalina Ave. and Monte D'Oro, there seemed little hope for an early solution.

Although city officials and neighboring residents squared off on several points, they seemed agreed on at least one thing: a problem does exist.

On the one side, residents insist the intersection is a "death trap," and want immediate action to forestall accidents.

#### 'HANDS TIED'

The city, however, says its hands are tied by the state, which is installing a traffic signal nearby and won't allow work on the other side until the first job is finished.

John Johnson, president of Riviera Home Owners Association renewed his group's concern at Tuesday's meeting of the City Council. The council, despite diligent attempts to get state action, has been unable to authorize any work at the problem intersection.

Residents complain they use Monte D'Oro to get to a shopping area beyond the intersection, but cannot get out because of heavy traffic moving from Palos Verdes Blvd. to Catalina Ave.

#### CAN'T SEE

Cars coming from Monte D'Oro cannot see traffic approaching from the left on Palos Verdes Blvd. because of a high bank between the two streets, residents say.

Johnson says a stop sign is needed at all four streets instead of just two.

#### SEE DANGER

City Traffic Engineer James Whitmer, however, says the intersection is not as dangerous as the residents assert. "Motorist driv-

ing there realize there is danger and, through experience, drive more carefully than they would otherwise," he says.

City officials promised they are continuing to negotiate for quick action at the intersection, but said a final corrective step might be more than "just around the corner."

### He's 'Buggie' About Books,

TORRANCE — James Buckley is a bug for books. And he'll get an unending supply of them soon when he takes over as librarian at Carson Library.

A lifetime resident of the Torrance area, Buckley joined the county library system in March 1961, shortly after receiving his master's degree in library science from the University of Southern California.

He is a 1959 graduate of Long Beach State College, where he received a bachelor's degree in English Literature. His pre-college schooling was obtained at Phineas Banning High School and at Los Angeles Harbor College.

Buckley lives at 177 E. Dominguez St., Torrance. The new Carson librarian is an active member of the American Library Association, California Library Association, Librarians Association, which is a newly formed professional organization.

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### Vote 'Yes' On Schools . . .

The public, like a newspaperman, deals in facts. That's why we think these facts are vitally important to you, to your neighbors and to our future generations:

1. A bond issue will be on Tuesday's election ballot. If adopted by the voters, it will bring Torrance schools an urgently-needed \$8 million.

2. The school district currently is in bonded indebtedness to capacity, and may profitably continue to be so if the measure is approved — without any increase in local taxes.

3. Statistics show there are more than 3000 kindergarten youngsters today compared to 1000 seniors who graduated in June. This means a two-thirds increase in enrollment.

4. On the basis of predictions, a school enrollment of 34,000 is expected by 1965. All present school facilities are virtually saturated.

These are the facts. They merit your serious consideration and your "yes" vote on Tuesday.

### 'Drug Baby' OK With Operation

TORRANCE — Thalidomide baby William Webb Jr. recovered from his third history-making operation today at Harbor General Hospital, and doctors already were planning the fourth and final surgical step.

The infant, son of a Gardena couple, started the four-step series of operations two months ago to correct arm and hand deformities believed caused by his mother's use of the drug thalidomide.

An official bulletin issued Thursday following the third operation said one end of the fibula (small bone in the right leg) was brought into connection with the right wrist. The two bones will be held together in a cast for approximately two weeks, hospital officials said, and the final operation will then be performed.

### Company Names Project Engineer

TORRANCE — Horace T. Pentecost, who recently joined General Technology Corporation, has been appointed to a new post as project engineer in the company's Space Simulation Group, it was announced today.

### 'Guinea Pigs' . . .



STUDENT ABILITY in conversational Spanish is observed by Robert Beudet, principal at Cosimir Elementary School. Unique program, in which foreign language is taught at elementary grade level, is undergoing trial for possible adoption throughout district. Students should be able to converse with south-of-the-border neighbors but can't yet write them, officials say.

### 'PILOT' KIDS NOW EXPERTS

TORRANCE — If your youngster was part of a "pilot program" in foreign language at Cosimir Elementary School last year, he should have little, if any, trouble making himself understood south of the border.

That's the word of Mrs. Margaret Denmark, curriculum consultant for Torrance schools.

The child would be able to order a meal, ask directions, and generally make friends among children there, though probably not exchange letters with his new acquaintances.

Emphasis of the program is on conversational learning, to learn the foreign language as we learn our own. Students who show an interest for reading and writing — and have the knack for it — are encouraged.

Cosimir School employs a special language laboratory, where a student listens to recorded Spanish, repeats and records the statement. When playing the two statements back he is able to compare his speech with the correct one.

The big problem of the conversational method, however, was in testing, since students cannot take written exams. The method developed was testing through pictures.

A statement such as, "The girl standing on the beach is holding a large ball," is given to the student in Spanish. Then he selects from among a dozen numbered pictures of varied scenes the one representing the statement.

These methods have been so successful, says Mrs. Denmark, that the program is now being expanded to include four schools.

By September, 1965 they will be used in all Torrance schools. At that time state law will require foreign language be taught in grades six through eight.

### Two Injured from Collision

Two Torrance men suffered minor injuries following an auto collision Thursday, 5:44 p.m., at Hawthorne Blvd. and 190th St. William Martin, 18, 5218 Steveann, was stopped and facing north on Hawthorne when Jerry Frank Singley, 33, 21110 Wood Ave., hit him from the rear.

## Good News for Photographers: Torrance Press Begins Contest

Hey, photographers! Here's good news.

Starting Monday, the Torrance Press will pay \$5 per issue to the person submitting a prizewinning photograph.

You don't have to be a professional — simply snap the photo you think has reader interest. We'll be the judges.

All photographs, including those not selected for the \$5 award will be used if they meet minimum requirements of interest and

good taste.

Photographs used will carry the name of the contest entrant, and will be returned if requested.

Awards may be claimed daily at the Torrance Press. Here are the rules:

1. Pictures must be either taken in Torrance or have a specific Torrance interest if taken elsewhere.

2. Photographs should be submitted in a size easily adaptable to newspaper column widths. If a photograph cannot be adapted by cut-

ting, a negative will be requested. Best size is 7 inches width and 6 inches depth.

3. Spot news photographs of news in the making will be accepted in any form. Roll or sheet film will be processed by the Torrance Press if the photographer does not have adequate darkroom facilities.

4. Photographs may be submitted in person at Torrance Press offices, 3238 W. Sepulveda Blvd., or by mail. Winners will be notified by mail, and prize money may be picked up between 9 a.m.

and 5 p.m. at the Torrance Press.

5. Pictures must be accompanied by a brief description, including location, names of subjects if possible, type of camera, film and camera settings.

6. All photographs will be returned if requested, but the Torrance Press assumes no responsibility or liability for photographs lost or otherwise not returned.

7. Judging will be conducted by members of the Torrance Press staff, and their decisions are final.

# Jobs in Record Upswing

TORRANCE — Employment here is keeping pace with a record-breaking rate throughout the state, says Murray W. Love, manager of the Torrance office of the California Department of Employment.

The Torrance office placed 1500 persons during August, highest in office history, while unemployment claims dropped to half what they were last winter.

Heaviest claims were in manufacturing employment, but due to growth of new jobs, employment in this field remained at the same level, according to Love.

#### LOWEST RATE

Lowest rate of unemployment came from the aircraft industry because of the move of workers into facilities here, Love said.

Vacations, shutdowns and model changeover at auto

assembly plants caused some unemployment.

#### FARM LABOR

Farm labor has decreased about a third in this area due to a corresponding decrease in farm acreage now being converted to housing tracts, according to Mrs. Lucile Mansfield, farm placement interviewer at the Torrance office.

Employment demands here are greatest for high paying skilled labor, in the machine and electronic trades.

### 'WE WANT YOU'

## Call Goes Out For Musicians

EL CAMINO COLLEGE

— Musicians: we want you.

That's the appeal being launched here this week as the college announces formation of its own community orchestra.

Adult instrumentalists with an interest in orchestral participation will be offered an opportunity to work together in recreating fine music, the school says.

Professional perfection won't exist in the beginning stages, but the aim for quality — as well as quantity — will be of considerable importance.

Weekly rehearsals will be two hours each Tuesday, starting at 8 p.m.

Ralph L. Mills, conductor, joined the El Camino faculty this fall, and has a rich

background in orchestral literature.

Enrollment will be held Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Music Building, room 17.

## Student Drops Decline

TORRANCE — Schools have decreased their drop-out rate from 5 to 3 percent over the last two school years, a report from Dr. Louis Kaplan, assistant superintendent of Torrance Unified Schools reveals.

The widely discussed problem was brought forward again this week by Dr. Ralph Richardson, state superintendent of public instruction candidate, who said the school drop-out problem is a national calamity warranting immediate action in California.

One out of every four California students fails to complete high school, Dr. Richardson said.

#### SAME RATE

This has been approximately the figure for Torrance schools, considering one out of four students entering high school fails to graduate. It has been reduced here by the counseling service offered students planning to drop out.

"Not many high schools can show a similar record for keeping students in school," Torrance Superintendent J. H. Hull commended. "The low drop-out rate in Torrance high schools is due primarily to efforts of the counseling staff."

#### UNSKILLED JOBS

Of those who dropout, Dr. Kaplan reports, "It appears most of the boys work in supermarkets, gas stations, or construction projects for a while, then go into military service."

Most of the girls work in industry, department stores, or other unskilled or semi-skilled jobs, and eventually get married."



PROBLEM INTERSECTION at Palos Verdes Blvd., Via Monte D'Oro and Catalina Ave. is shown with only moderate traffic. Neighboring residents complain heavy traffic is making three-way corner a "death

trap," have asked city to correct problem. The city, which has a filing cabinet jammed with correspondence, says state is responsible. No immediate solution is seen. —Press Photo by Harold Hawkins