

'EXPLOSIONS CRACK OUR HOMES'



Boyd Thompson Tells Council of Damage

A series of explosions, reportedly by an oil company taking geologic soundings, and which Boyd Thompson is convinced have caused cracks in his home at 1633 Beech Ave., Torrance, jarred Thompson into appearing before City Council last Tuesday night.

Four blasts were felt by Thompson and his wife. "I figured that after the last one, it was like the Cuban situation — something had to be done about it," said Thompson.

"I didn't know what to do, so I went to the City Council," he added.

After hearing Thompson's story, Mayor Albert Isen instructed City Attorney Stanley E. Remelmeier to write to the oil company to advise the firm that complaints of damage had been made to City Council.

The evening following that of the Council meeting, a reporter from The Press visited the home of Boyd Thompson.

There were cracks in the bathroom tile floor . . . in the bathroom tile wall . . . in the living room ceiling and wall . . . in the dining room ceiling . . . in the ceiling of the two back bedrooms.

"I painted that ceiling myself," said Thompson, who is retired, pointing upward. "There were no cracks in that ceiling when I painted it."

In the light of the following Thursday, Thompson pointed out cracks in the stucco walls of his home.

His neighbor, Harry Boynton, 1629 Beech Ave., also is convinced that the explosions caused cracks in the walls of his home.

"That last one was a dandy," said Boynton, showing a jagged crack in the exterior wall near the fireplace chimney. "The house shook like it was an earthquake."

There have been no explosions since before Christmas and Thompson and Boynton, in pinning down the day of the fourth, last and "dandy" blast, pick the Tuesday

before Christmas. That would be the 18th of December.

When the first explosion was felt, Thompson said he thought "it was kind of foolish, setting them off so close to property."

Thompson said he had been doing quite a bit of work on his home, replacing the roof and other work.

"They ask if the cracks were there before," Thompson said, "and I say 'no,' just since the explosions."

"No," repeated Boynton, sharing his neighbor's belief that the explosions caused the cracks.

"They say it's just through the first layer of plaster," said Thompson, "but I may have to sandblast to get rid of those cracks. If I paint over them, they will just open up again."

The danger of water seepage seems to worry Thompson more than anything else. He said, "If we get rains, sometimes it rains here for a week," and that the water would seep into the cracks, possibly causing damage.

When he first noticed the cracks in the living room after the first blast, "I thought we'd just have to live with it," and Thompson did nothing, or said nothing, about it.

But when the fourth blast the one that Boynton said shook his house "like an earthquake"—came, Thompson said he decided he couldn't live with it any more.

That's when he decided to appear before the City Council to share his troubles with Mayor Isen and six Torrance Councilmen.

Torrance Council Explores Problems of Victor Zoning

At a study session Wednesday night, the Torrance City Council began exploring the questions and methods connected with the problems of bringing the zoning of the Victor tract west of Anza Avenue up to date.

Presently, the tract principally is zoned for agriculture, although some is zoned for the use of apartments, business and industry.

The Council decided to explore the matter in more detail at the Council meeting of Tuesday, Jan. 29.

At the Wednesday night study session, several homeowners objected to more apartment zoning. Their position is that more apartments would overload the schools and increase the traffic problems.

This position of the homeowners seems to run counter to that of land owners in the area, who would like to build apartments upon their land.

Zoning of the area east of Anza Avenue is mostly industrial and will remain unchanged until the members of the City Council have

given further study to the matter.

South High Wins, 74-60

By GLENN FISHER

The South High Spartans posted their second Bay League basketball win by trouncing the winless Leuzinger Olympians, 74-60, Friday night.

The Spartans had their hottest night of the season from the floor. The Spartans had a fine night on the backpedately pulled down the rebounds.

The six-one Junior, Don Denson, sparked the Spartans with a fine 21-point performance.

Team Captain Chuck Robinson followed Denson with 19 points. Big six-five Ken Halland added 16 points to wrap up the Spartan victory.

The Olympians were led by six-six John Hiles. Hiles hit seven field goals and eight free throws to total 22 points.

The Olympian Sophomore, Randy McMichael, scored 11 points. McMichael was sixth in Bay League scoring going into Friday night's game.

The win put the Spartans in the seventh spot in the Bay League standings, while winless Leuzinger remains in last.

FIRST OUT—FIRST READ



TORRANCE PRESS

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VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 79

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 1963

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WATCH TORRANCE GROW

Week Ago 111,742
Today 114,833

Do You Know?

1. Two states once mobilized to war against each other. Which?
2. Ten Vice-Presidents became Presidents. Only three were elected. Who?
3. John Kennedy is the first Catholic President. There was a Catholic in the White House 116 years earlier. Who?
4. Thirty-four men have been Presidents, but officially there are 35 Presidents. Why?
5. In 1861, there were five living ex-Presidents. How many now?

(Answers, Page A-2)

Torrance Hi Adult School Opens Feb. 4

The Torrance Evening High School is now accepting registrations for adult education.

The following courses are offered: English, math, social studies, science, home-making, general business, fine arts, and vocational subjects.

Daytime classes are knitting, millinery, psychology of personality development, and child observation. Special courses include first aid, investments and securities, speech therapy, techniques of cafeteria and school lunch operation, and practical application of management principles.

Students wishing to earn a high school diploma should call the adult education office at FAirfax 8-8080, extension 295, in the afternoon, or FA 8-9206 in the evenings.

Other students wishing to enter the school and who are not expecting to earn a diploma may register directly in the class of their choice with the teacher on the night the class opens, beginning Monday, Feb. 4.

Information regarding all classes offered, and appointments for registration, are available by calling the Adult Education Office any weekday afternoon, or evenings Monday through Thursday at the number given above.

Hello, Boys

Boys who are interested in getting a paper route can call The Circulation Department of The Press, DA 5-0883, any week day afternoon, except Wednesday, from 3 to 5 p.m., for information on how they can get into business for themselves.

City Recreation Shows Film "Flute and Arrow"

The film "The Flute and the Arrow" will be shown at the Torrance Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd., 7:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 25.

Starting this month, films of the County Museum Film Series, presented in cooperation with the Torrance Recreation Department, will be shown at the new Torrance Recreation Center instead of the City Hall. There will be just one showing.

"The Flute and the Arrow" is the result of three years' work.

O'Brien Drale Honored by Supervisors

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adjourned their meeting last Tuesday in the memory of O'Brien Z. Drale, father of Torrance Councilman Nicholas O. Drale, and two other community leaders who were from the Long Beach area.

The board, on the motion of Supervisor Burton W. Chace, sat in silence with bowed heads at the close of the session. Certificates of sympathy will be mailed to the respective families.

The men from Long Beach were Dr. Emil Lange, and Lorne D. Middough, a former California Assemblyman.

Carson Area Street Plans Win Okay

Plans for construction of streets in a new housing tract in the vicinity of Carson and Martin Sts., in the Carson - Dominguez area, have been approved by the L. A. Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Burton W. Chace said the work will be done at an estimated cost of \$25,000 by the tract developer. Plans include curbs, gutters, pavement and sidewalks.

The completed project will provide access to 27 homesites.

County Library Buys 2-Millionth Book

Librarian John D. Henderson has announced that the County Library has purchased its two-millionth volume. He said only seven public library systems in the U.S. have more than two million books, and each of those is much older than the L.A. County Library, which was 50 last September.

Brady Heads Scout Drive

William Brady, manager of Lund Insurance Co., 1425-A Marcelina Ave., Torrance, is the volunteer campaign leader for the 1963 Boy Scouts sustaining membership program, Joe Penick, finance chairman for the Harbor district, has announced.

Brady will enroll friends of Scouting who wish to support the Boy Scouts through sustaining memberships, which are vital to the success of Scouting in this area, Penick said.



DAUGHTER AND DAD — Doris Ann Hull, 9, with her father, Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of Torrance Schools, in South High at the second annual Father and Daughter banquet held by

the Girl Scouts of Central Torrance neighborhood Thursday night. Close to 400 attended. Theme was "Dads and Daughters Roundup." Story on Page A-4. —PRESS Photo



LEARNING IS FUN in the kindergarten of the Christian Day School of First Lutheran Church, Carson and Flower Sts., Torrance. Shown above (clockwise) are Scott Wood, Mrs.

Rosemarie Griffen, the teacher; Valerie Kibbee, Nancy Hamner and Tony Lawson. Story and additional picture, Page A-4. —PRESS Photo

Do You Have Refund Due?

If you worked for two or more employers during 1962, you may have had too much deducted from your pay check for disability insurance.

If so, you may be entitled to a refund from the State Department of Employment of anything more than \$41 deducted for disability insurance. The deduction in excess of \$41 must be claimed before June 30, 1963.

The refund can be obtained only if you apply for it on a proper form. You can get a copy of this form from any department of Employment office, or by writing to 800 Capitol Ave., Sacramento, Calif.

School Honor 15 Pupils for Attendance

Fifteen students of Stephen M. White Junior High School, 22102 S. Figueroa St., Carson, are to receive awards during graduation exercises for outstanding attendance during their junior high school careers.

Top awards go to Kenneth Fujimota and Kathleen Hunt for six semesters, or three years, of perfect attendance.

The following have had five semesters of perfect attendance: Noel Chaloux, Danny Mark, Denny Mark, Paul Moine, Linda Fox, and Holly Severson.

Steven Allen, John Bottrell, Jose Del Castillo, Dana Gilbert, Aaron Morinaka, David Webb, and Donna Webb, have had four semesters of perfect attendance.

The school said this is an excellent achievement considering that this class only has 193 members.

Two Doctors In Torrance Win Honors

Two Torrance physicians have been honored by the American College of Physicians, being elected Associates by the board of regents.

They are Dr. C. L. Liu and Dr. Leopold A. Schleissner. The honors will be formally bestowed April 4, in Denver, Colo., at convocation ceremonies to be held at the 44th annual session of the American College of Physicians.

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