

33,000 Students Trek Back to City Schools

Torrance Press-Herald

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AWAY WE GO . . . Getting off the ground in some older airplanes is a little more difficult than in some of the modern small aircraft, says Jan Bradshaw, Miss Torrance of 1965, as she gives the propeller on this old model a spin. Jan will join airport officials in hosting Torrance residents at the city's Municipal Airport Sunday during the annual Airport Day celebration. Among the features of the celebration will be flights for a charge of 2 cents per pound.

(Press-Herald Photo)

'Extra Pay' Proposal to City Finance Committee

An extra-work, extra-pay plan for City Clerk Vernon Coll and City Treasurer Thomas Rupert was referred to the City Council's Finance Committee last night following a short debate during a pre-council session.

Councilmen expressed concern about the proposal because it would delegate administrative duties to elected officials, thereby creating what Councilman Ken Miller called "semi-elected, semi-employed" positions in the city.

City Manager Edward J.



ONCE OVER . . . Jan Bradshaw, Miss Torrance of 1965, gets a visual tour of the Torrance Municipal Airport in preparation for the annual Airport Day events, scheduled Sunday. Acting as guide is William Critchfield, assistant airport manager, who points out a portion of the airport from the tower.

(Press-Herald Photo)

Clerk Held for Murder, Eight Counts of Arson

Students Abandon Beaches

Nearly 33,500 Torrance youngsters abandoned the beaches this morning for the trek back to schools as Torrance opened its public schools for another year.

On hand to greet the returning students were nearly 1,350 teachers, principals, and counselors—220 of them new to Torrance — staffing 35 elementary schools and four high schools.

Torrance students will start the year—in time, at least—behind their colleagues in other schools. Most surrounding communities, including Los Angeles, welcomed students back Monday, and 1,300 students at Bishop Montgomery High are well into their second week of classes.

A breakdown of enrollment figures shows some 9,000 students enrolling at the city's four high schools, while the remaining 24,500 are finding places in the elementary school classrooms.

South High, with an expected student body of 2,800, rates at the city's largest high school, while Victor School claims honors as the largest elementary school with an anticipated enrollment near the 1,300 mark.

Predicted enrollment is up about 1,400 over last year, according to Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools.

For the record, students will get their first break in the classroom routine Nov. 11 when the nation pays tribute to its veterans.

Three City Groups Act On Renewal

Members of three city groups will take up the study of a marketability report on the city's Meadow Park Urban Renewal project at a special meeting tonight. The report was referred to the three groups last night by the Redevelopment Agency of the city.

The report, prepared by Development Research Associates, was ordered to determine the most appropriate use for land which the city will acquire during the course of the urban renewal project.

Detailed study of the report will get under way at 8 o'clock tonight when the city's Planning and Airport commissions hold a joint meeting. Representatives from the Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Improvement also have been invited to attend the session.

THE BASIC conclusion of the report is that an industrial park oriented toward the Municipal Airport "is economically feasible and presents an outstanding opportunity for the city of Torrance."

The urban renewal area is east of Hawthorne Avenue at (Continued on A-3)



WARNING SIGNS . . . Torrance Chief of Police Walter R. Koenig and Mrs. Russell McElroy, safety chairman for the Torrance PTA, look over one of the bumper stickers which will be used to remind all motorists that Torrance schools open for the fall term Wednesday. The stickers, made available by the Automobile Club of Southern California, will be displayed on police cars, post office vehicles, school and city buses, and driver education cars. More than 100,000 youngsters will be involved in motor vehicle accidents while on their way to or from school during the new year, according to national safety experts.

(Press-Herald Photo)

Councilmen Hedge on Law To Curb Drive-In Menace

A proposed ordinance aimed at controlling squealing tires and boisterous conduct around drive-in restaurants was referred to the City Council's Police and Fire Committee last night when some councilmen questioned the wisdom of the proposal.

The proposed law, drawn by City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier at the request of the police department, defines loitering, makes it a misdemeanor crime, and establishes a permit system for drive-in restaurants remaining open after 10 p.m.

Remelmeier said the sections dealing with loitering are broad and raise a constitutional question. He added, "the area is gray enough" that its constitutionality might be upheld by the courts.

COUNCILMAN David K.

Chest X-Ray Unit Sets Visit Here

A mobile chest x-ray unit will be parked at the Torrance Unified School District's Educational Materials Building Friday from 2:30 until 5 p.m.

The x-ray unit, operated by the Los Angeles County Health Department, will be open to the public for tuberculosis detection. A fee of \$1 for each x-ray will be charged.

The Educational Materials Building is located at 2336 Plaza del Amo.

Lyman, noting the broad definition of loitering, said the law could "be used as a tool to keep any young adult from going into a drive-in restaurant."

M. H. Porter, assistant chief of police, told councilmen the law was aimed at young adults, since teenagers are subject to curfew laws. "We are interested in young adults who gather and create a disturbance," Porter said. He told councilmen present laws are not adequate to control the situation.

"By trying to solve one problem, we create another," H. Ted Olson declared. He said the law could be used indiscriminately against anyone.

J. A. BEASLEY told his colleagues he felt the proposal was unconstitutional.

Lyman suggested the ordinance's broad provisions were aimed at some other problem and wanted to know what that problem was. Porter, however, denied there was anything implied in the ordinance, then, in response to a question from City Manager Edward J. Ferraro, said there was nothing about the problem which could not be discussed in public.

Councilmen, however, sent the ordinance to the police and fire committee for more study when Remelmeier suggested a sub-committee look into the matter. The committee will meet with police officials before putting the ordinance back on the council agenda.

IN OTHER matters, the council:

- Approved the purchase of added radio equipment for

Hearing Set for Suspect

A mild-mannered supermarket clerk was scheduled to be arraigned today on charges that he started a series of early-morning fires throughout the city that ended in the death of one of the fire victims.

Complaints charging 27-year-old Thomas Lee Olson with eight counts of arson and one count of murder were issued Tuesday evening and were to be presented in South Bay Municipal Court today.

THE MURDER complaint followed the death of Joseph V. Miller, 46, who collapsed and died while fighting a fire in his garage at 26202 Delos Drive early Monday. Olson is charged with starting the blaze.

Olson was stopped by Batt. Chief Frank Tuttle of the Torrance Fire Department near one of the early morning fires, but was released by police who could find no evidence to hold him. He gave himself up at the police station later, saying he had set the Monday morning blazes and several other garage fires here and in the Los Angeles Shoestring area in the past year.

Monday's trail of fire and terror started shortly after 2 a.m. with flames which destroyed the William Jones car at 2714 Ridgeland Drive in south Torrance.

WITHIN A FEW minutes the blaze was reported at the Miller residence, and at the Thomas Dyer residence at 26215 Delos Drive. The Dyers and their 2-year-old daughter, Diana, were roused by Miller before his collapse and were able to escape their burning home without injury.

Two cars were burned near 2623 Lofty View Drive about the time Miller was rousing (Continued on A-3)

Seek Ban on 'Cocktails' - - -

Torrance Mayor Albert Isen, commenting on the series of fires here early Monday which resulted in the arrest of a 27-year-old market clerk on suspicion of arson, last night asked City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier to draft a city ordinance making it illegal to carry "Molotov Cocktails" in a car. Isen said there is no law—either state or city—on the books now. "I, for one," he added, "don't intend to wait for Sacramento."

Torrance Man Hurt - - -

Hospitalized Monday after a two-car accident near downtown Torrance was 63-year-old Daniel W. James, 2203 Arlington Ave. James was hurt in a collision at an intersection adjacent to his home and was taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital and then transferred to Kaiser Hospital in Harbor City. He was thrown from his vehicle by the impact.

Clothing Thieves Sought - - -

Burglars who broke into two shopping center stores over the weekend and took a reported \$20,000 worth of men's and women's clothing are being sought by Torrance police. Loss of approximately \$10,000 worth of men's suits was reported by Silverwoods at 21810 Hawthorne Ave. Another loss of nearly that amount was reported across the shopping center mall at the Joseph Magnin Co. store where fur coats and stoles made up the bulk of the loot. Windows were broken to gain entrance to the stores, police reported.