

Valuable Radio Gear Taken From Planes

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Torrance Press-Herald

UNEQUALED CIRCULATION
AND EDITORIAL COVERAGE

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SHOP BURNS . . . Torrance firemen are shown at the House of Draperies, Inc., 3342 Sepulveda Blvd., which was destroyed by flames Thursday night. The drapery shop was totally involved when firemen arrived. Several nearby businesses also received smoke and water damage. Cause of the blaze is being investigated by fire officials.

Heat Wave on Skids; High Was 97 Friday

Airport Hit By Burglar

Two light airplanes at Torrance Municipal Airport were stripped of their radio systems sometime Thursday evening or Friday morning. The equipment was valued at more than \$6,000.

A thief gained entrance to the Tanger Aviation Co. hangar at 3103 Pacific Coast Highway by twisting a padlock off the hangar door and removed the radio system from a plane owned by Robert Cobb of Playa del Rev.

Police said the burglar apparently pried the baggage door open to gain entry to the aircraft. The radio was valued at \$4,765, police said.

In a second theft, a radio and an indicator were removed from an airplane owned by Gerald T. Glass of 1546 E. 215th Place. It was reported to police Friday about 30 minutes after the first theft was discovered.

David Smith of Southwest Avionics called police to report the second theft. The plane had been locked, Smith said, and police found no signs of a forced entry. Total value of the radio and indicator was placed at \$1,315.



AN OASIS . . . What is usually an oasis in the hot days of summer is little better than a mirage when the desert winds whip into the area sending the heat and smog of the city to the beach. Here the younger set, seeking a release from the stifling heat, line up for a cooling refreshment. The only real solution was in the water, however. It ran a refreshing 65 to 68 degrees—about 30 less than the air temperatures. (Press-Herald Photo)

Desert Air Has A Fling

Blistering sirocco-like winds pouring from California deserts through the canyons and spilling out across the Los Angeles basin turned Torrance and the normally comfortable beach areas into an inferno at week's end—but the weatherman promised some relief by today.

The heat wave peaked in Torrance Friday when official temperatures taken at the Torrance Municipal Airport reached a maximum of 97. Thursday's high was a relatively "cool" 93.

Forecasts for today indicate that the thermometer may have to struggle to top the 85-mark, and cooling breezes could keep it lower in the beach areas.

Santana winds get the official blame for the heat, an October phenomenon in the Southland. While desert temperatures are scheduled to remain high, the Santana winds have been dropped from the forecast, meaning that the afternoon ocean-breeze could return to Torrance today.

Some patchy fog has been forecast for this morning.

Question of 'Extra Pay' On Council Agenda Again

Torrance councilmen are scheduled to take up the question of extra duties and extra pay for City Clerk Vernon W. Coil and City Treasurer Thomas C. Rupert once more Tuesday evening.

Pops' Event Planned at Torrance Hi

A "pops" concert will be presented at Torrance High school Friday.

Lyse Aehle will conduct the Bay Torrance Symphony in seven selections including the "Surprise Symphony" (Joseph Haydn), "My Lady" (Frederic Loewe), and "A Trumpeter's Lullaby" (Roy Anderson). Soloists will be Leon Field, violin and Donald Romm, trumpet.

Admission is free and current time is 8:15 p.m. The concert is presented as a community service in cooperation with the Torrance Recreation Department.

A report from the council's finance committee, chaired by Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr. The proposal was referred to the finance committee for study nearly three weeks ago.

If approved as recommended by City Manager Edward J. Ferraro at that time, the plan would assign extra duties to both Coil and Rupert in order to give them full-time jobs. The extra duties, Ferraro noted, are of a routine nature and involve supervision of staff functions.

Field work or matters involving administrative policy would not be assigned, Ferraro said, because he feels such duties are incompatible with the elective positions. The city manager also has asked for the right to withdraw such duties if he determines they should be withdrawn.

Under provisions of the city charter now in effect both the clerk and treasurer are part-time officials. A charter amendment adopted in 1962—it will become effective in April, 1966—makes the clerk a full-time official.

Councilmen have been considering a similar amendment for the treasurer's position which may be placed on next April's municipal ballot. During the regularly scheduled council meeting, city fathers will take up a new ordinance to provide for a park and recreation facilities tax. The new tax would replace the city's present subdivision park fee.

Three alternate ordinances are to be considered. All are essentially the same, except for fees imposed. One plan would impose a tax of 1 percent of the value of a new home or dwelling unit. An alternate plan would set a minimum fee of \$15 for a one-bedroom unit and \$5 for each additional bedroom to a maximum of \$30. The same principal is included in a third plan with fees set at \$45 for one bedroom, \$15 for each additional bedroom and a maximum fee of \$90.

Councilmen also had scheduled a continued hearing on a request for a helistop on a proposed high-rise building. The request has, however, been withdrawn.

Exam Dates for Police Reported

Civil service examinations for a policeman will be held Nov. 13 by the city of Torrance. Final date to file an application is Nov. 3.

The position is open to young men between the ages of 21 and 31 who have graduated from high school or have an acceptable equivalent education.

Physical qualifications include a height between 5 feet, 9 inches and 6 feet, 5 inches and weight between 150 and 240 pounds. Weight must be in proportion to height.

A WRITTEN examination and a physical agility and strength test will be administered Nov. 13. Those qualifying will be required to complete an oral examination, a.m.

Salary ranges between \$643 and \$709 per month. Completion of courses in law, social science, or public administration is desirable. All applicants must hold a valid class D California driver's license.

INFORMATION and applications may be obtained at the personnel office at city hall, 3031 Torrance Blvd. The residence requirement has been waived for the examination. A successful applicant must, however, establish residence in the city within six months.

Applicants taking the written examination should wear clothing suitable for physical exercise.

The examination will be given at the Torrance Recreation Center, beginning at 9 a.m.

Vet Loses Car, Cash In Robbery

A disabled veteran was robbed of \$120 and his car Thursday evening, apparently by a companion with whom he had been drinking.

George Arthur Peacock, 43, of Redondo Beach told Torrance police he was knocked to the ground and hit several times by the suspect before his wallet, containing \$120, was taken. The suspect also took Peacock's car.

Police were summoned to the parking lot at Torrance Beach by an area resident about 4:15 a.m. Friday. Peacock was bleeding when officers found him near a building in the area.

Peacock told officers he had spent several hours with the suspect at a Redondo Beach bar and had been driving around the area just before the robbery.

A brother-in-law was called to take Peacock to a physician after he refused medical attention at the scene.

Commission Acts to Halt Growth of Bars in Lomita

Determined efforts of the opening of new bars in the Lomita City Council to curtail the spread of beer bars in the infant city were furthered last week when the city's Planning Commission denied a conditional use permit for a bar at 24412 Crenshaw Blvd.

Action by the commission was based on a new Lomita ordinance which requires a conditional use permit for the

opening of new bars in the city. To secure a permit, applicants must appear before the commission.

The new ordinance was adopted by the council after City Administrator Stanley Greene reported on a survey of bars in Lomita. Greene told councilmen there were 28 bars in the city which are under state jurisdiction. No local controls are applicable.

Bond Vote Under Study . . .

Trustees of the Torrance Unified School District are due to consider calling an election for school bonds when they convene at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow at the board offices, 2335 Plaza del Amo. Basis for the item is a report on district building needs which shows \$7.4 million is needed because of growth and \$2.8 million needed to house existing programs. Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, will suggest a bond election be scheduled on Feb. 2 or Feb. 9, 1966. Amount of the bonds to be placed before the voters could be determined at a later meeting, Dr. Hull said.

Redondo Wins Fair Award . . .

The city of Redondo Beach has won second place in the Community Exhibits Division of the Los Angeles County Fair, according to Carl L. Rogers, president of the sponsoring Chamber of Commerce. The city will receive a silver plate and ribbon, along with a \$350 cash award for the exhibit, which features the city's King Harbor. The award marks the fifth consecutive year in which Redondo Beach has won a first or second place award in the fair.

New International Game . . .

Press-Herald columnist Larry Macaray talks about the newest international game in today's Let's Go column. Macaray, recently returned from an around-the-world trip, calls the game, "Fleeing the Lamb." Its players can include such diverse individuals as an Egyptian camel driver, a salesman from Lebanon, or an Arab walking along the Nile. For rules of the new game, see Let's Go in today's Press-Herald.

City Must Decide About Libraries

Action this past week by the County Board of Supervisors which will terminate the current library contract between the county and the city on June 30, 1968, was expected by Torrance officials.

The supervisors' vote had, in fact, been sought by the city for more than a year, a spokesman for the city manager's office said. He said the county had indicated several months ago that the current contract would not be renewed.

Several meetings have been held during the past year, the spokesman said, but the coun-

ty still indicated it would not renew the contract. Finally, city officials asked County Librarian William S. Geller for a letter indicating what the county might do when the existing contract expires.

Geller's letter apparently was the basis for last Tuesday's vote by supervisors.

The current contract arrangement is unique in the county. It calls for the county to furnish books and personnel to staff five branch libraries in the city. Torrance owns the five buildings and does not belong to the County Library District.

A city tax of 7.5 cents is

incorporated into the city tax rate and an additional general fund contribution—equivalent to a 5-cent tax rate—supports the system. The current county library tax is 17.5 cents.

During the past year, city officials have been conducting an "in depth" study of possible alternate plans for a library system. The report, which also considers reports submitted by the Torrance League of Women Voters, is expected to be given to the City Council by the end of this month.

Three alternate plans are possible. They include:

- A Municipal Library System.
 - A regional plan, whereby the Torrance area would become a separate region under the county with its own tax rate. The libraries would be operated by the county under such a plan.
 - Join the County Library System. The current library tax would be applied in Torrance and the county would purchase or lease existing Torrance library buildings.
- Details of the report were not revealed, nor was there any indication as to a recommendation from the city manager's office.