

Doctors Fail in Effort to Save Teenager

Torrance

Press-Herald

Published semi-weekly Wednesday and Sunday by King Williams Press, Inc. Entered as second class matter January 30, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California, Under act of March 3, 1879.

INSIDE TODAY

Anti-Landers . . . A-5 PTA News . . . B-7
Crossword . . . A-5 Sports . . . B-3
Editorials . . . A-4 Women's News . . B-1
Obituaries . . . A-2 Want Ads . . . B-4

TO CALL US

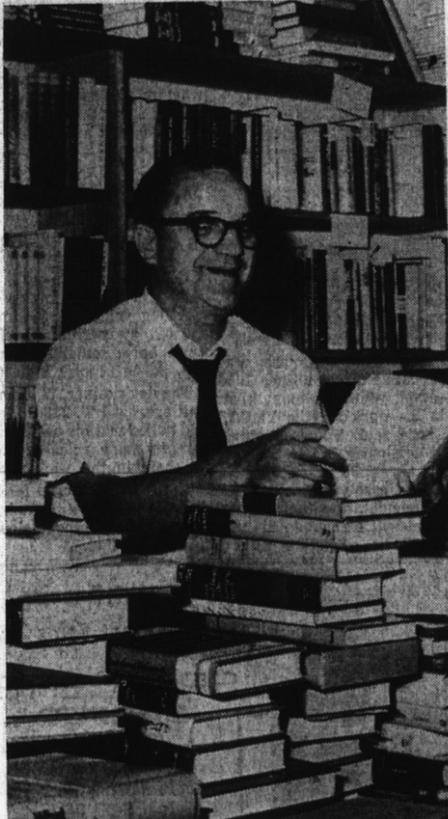
Circulation Office . . . DA 5-1515
Advertising . . . DA 5-6060
Women's News . . . DA 5-6380
News Department . . . DA 5-6060

Series II, Volume IV, Number 59

3238 Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance, California - Sunday, January 21, 1968

By Carrier 50c Per Month
By Mail, \$18 per Year

10c Per Copy 14 PAGES



MOUNTAIN OF READING . . . Right at home in a stack of books, City Librarian Russell West enjoys one of the thousands of volumes purchased for the proposed city library system. West's method of hunting down bargains in used book stores all over Southern California has stretched library funds much farther than city officials forecast. An avid reader of history, philosophy, and western stories, West devours 10 to 15 books a week. (Press-Herald Photo)

BARGAIN HUNTER

City Librarian No Frail Mouse

By NATALIE HALL, Press-Herald Staff Writer
For some, the word "librarian" may evoke images of a frail introvert, half buried in a heap of dusty tomes. But the mouse-of-the-scrolls label hardly fits City Librarian Russell West.
Charged with the immense job of selecting and processing thousands of books for the proposed Torrance municipal library system, West tackles his work with the gusto of a carousel barker. City councilmen got a pleasant surprise Tuesday night when West announced that he'd purchased many more books with his limited budget than an administrative study had forecast. When asked how he had managed to accomplish this feat, West got a laugh from the audience by exclaiming, "Shrewd book buying!"
BUT IT'S no joke. Of the 80,000 volumes West has accumulated for the five Torrance libraries, nearly 15,000 were purchased below market price.
"It's a question of knowing where the books are and taking advantage of your sources," West explained. Since the city hired him last April, West has made it his business to haunt used book stores from San Diego to Bakersfield, picking up book bargains. He's even ordered off-pressed books from as far away as England and Ireland. One British dealer went so far as to write West a personal letter, telling him how the devaluation of the pound could benefit the Torrance library collection!
"LIBRARIANS can become pretty shrewd bargainers when it comes to buying books," West repeated. "Rooting around in old book shops

Apartment Fire Takes Life Of Elderly Torrance Man

Youth Injured In Fight

A back yard fistfight between two area youths ended in death late Thursday night. Sixteen-year-old Leighton J. Vierra died at 10:30 p.m. at Little Company of Mary Hospital in spite of feverish attempts to revive him with resuscitation, heart massage and shock treatment. The slender, dark-skinned youth was fatally injured Wednesday evening during an altercation in the back yard of his home at 3531 W. 190th St.

ARRESTED at the scene on charges of assault with the intent to do great bodily harm was James Naylor, 17, of 200 E. Gardena Blvd., Gardena. Naylor told police that Vierra apparently fell during the scuffle, hitting his head on either the ground or a nearby clothes dryer.

Naylor said that Vierra had been feuding with his brother, Larry Naylor, and suddenly announced that he, Vierra, was going to take out his hostilities on James Naylor. Vierra grabbed him by the neck, Naylor said, and the two began to scuffle. The suspect said he had nothing to hide and couldn't understand why Vierra had picked a fight with him. The boys were of similar height and build.

WHEN VIERRA fell, he got up, began to gasp for breath, then collapsed, witnesses told police. A friend, Bill Foster of 18919 Cerise Ave., began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation when Vierra appeared to have stopped breathing. Fire department units arriving on the scene administered closed-heart massage and a resuscitator in an attempt to keep Vierra's circulation going.

THE NORTH High student began to gasp during his ambulance ride but had stopped breathing by the time he reached the hospital.



THE CLEANUP . . . A bulldozer moves in to clean up soft drink bottles dumped from a truck following a traffic accident at the intersection of Carson Street and Normandie Avenue Thursday afternoon. Two persons were hurt in the crash, which involved a truck and four cars. It required about 30 minutes to clean the intersection and restore normal traffic flow, Los Angeles police reported. (Press-Herald Photo)

Bottles Spilled on Street After Crash

Two persons were injured and three others escaped unharmed in a twin accident involving four cars and a truck Thursday afternoon at Carson Street and Normandie Avenue. A small compact foreign car driven by Greenwalt attempted to pass a vehicle driven by Mrs. Phyllis O'Hare, 38, of 1166 Levinson Ave., Torrance, on the right hand side of the roadway. She was not injured.

Treated and released from Harbor General Hospital following the 3:30 p.m. crashes were Richard Greenwalt, 26, of 1811 1/2 W. 220th St., Torrance, and Granville Floyd, 38, of 1131 Jay St., Torrance. Both suffered lacerations. According to Harbor Division Traffic Officer Henry Troyer the first accident occurred about 250 feet north of Carson Street on Normandie Avenue.

GREENWALT'S car sideswiped her car then allegedly sped southward on Normandie through a red light at Carson Street. He then collided with a Coca Cola Bottling Co. truck driven by Garry Eaton, 24, of 17192 Hague Ln., Huntington Beach.

Eaton's truck was eastbound on Carson and accordingly to witnesses entered the intersection on a green light. The impact of the collision sent half the truck's load of pop bottles cascading onto the concrete intersection shattering into a curb to curbside of glass.

As Eaton tried to gain control of the wildly careening truck he sideswiped a vehicle driven by John Meyer, 61, of 1133 Elder Glenn Ln., Harbor City, it was reported. Meyer, westbound on Carson Street was in a left turn pocket waiting in a line of vehicles. He was uninjured.

STILL OUT of control, the truck plunged almost head-on into Floyd's car, bounced off and finally came to a stop eastbound in the westbound lanes of Carson Street. He too, was eastbound. Schaeffers Ambulance transported the victims to Harbor General Hospital, a distance of about two blocks. Officer Troyer reported. A City of Los Angeles skip loader labored half an hour to remove the broken glass and wooden crates from the jammed intersection. Traffic was backed up for up to a half mile in several directions. Police have not filed charges against Greenwalt as of Friday afternoon pending further investigation.

Wife, Pet Dog Hurt in Blaze

An elderly Torrance man lost his life when fire broke out Thursday night in his downtown Torrance apartment. Firefighters found the body of Charles Raymond Duncan, 72, lying on the bathroom floor in his apartment, 1221 El Prado, Apt. 9. His wife, Flora Agnes Duncan, 67, was sitting in the bathroom when the grim discovery was made.

Tentative cause of Duncan's death was listed as asphyxiation, although the coroner has been directed to examine the alcoholic content of his blood. Duncan's upper body was covered with second and third degree burns. BOTH the Duncans were rushed to Harbor General Hospital. Resuscitation and external heart massage failed to revive the collapsed victim. Mrs. Duncan was treated for smoke inhalation and is now reported in satisfactory condition. A third victim of the blaze was the family pet, a miniature toy poodle named Cherie. Fire officials found the tiny dog covering in a closet, with bad burns on her hind legs. Now under the care of a veterinarian, Cherie made headlines a few weeks ago when she was stolen from the Duncans' apartment and later returned. The dog is said to be valued at \$1,500.

THE FIRE was reported about 7 p.m. when a tenant from a neighboring unit, Joe K. Burke, observed smoke billowing from the Duncans' apartment. While Burge helped other residents from the building, another tenant, Ronnie Dean, tried to enter the Duncans' unit but found the doorknob too hot to handle. He finally succeeded in kicking the door open. Unable to entering the flaming apartment, Burke and Dean manned the hall fire hose, pulling it to the outer fire escape.

Announcement of the change in hospital administration was made by Mrs. Boris Woolley, president of the board of Torrance Memorial Hospital. The two hospitals have merged and are finalizing plans for a new \$8 million facility to replace the two existing hospitals.

ENSMINGER, the hospital's top administrative officer, was given the new post to enable him to devote more time to planning and developing the new 250-bed hospital, Mrs. Woolley said. He also will administer the hospital's community resources and public relations programs.

In a second action, the two boards named Charles D. Johnson, administrator at Riviera Hospital, administrator of Torrance Memorial Hospital. Ensminger was a pre-medical student at the University of California at Los Angeles. (See HOSPITAL, Page A-2)

Hospitals Name Vice President

Appointment of Leonard A. Ensminger as executive vice president of Torrance Memorial and Riviera Community hospitals has been approved by the boards of directors of the two hospitals.

Special Election Ordered - - -

When Lomita voters go to the polls April 9, they will be voting for three councilmen instead of two following a decision this past week to call a special election. The special vote will be to fill a vacancy created several weeks ago by the resignation of Councilman Ray H. Ferrin. Terms of Mayor Joe A. Haslam and Mead Gardiner expire in April. Ferrin's term has two years to run.

Two Sentenced in Fraud - - -

Two men have been sentenced in Superior Court in a bank fraud case involving several Gardena firms. Samuel A. Longo, 30, of Garden Grove was ordered to serve a term in state prison on four criminal counts of fraud, while Gordon Iler, 40, of Santa Monica was placed on six years probation on condition he serve the first year in county jail. The sentences ended a trial which has lasted for some seven months. A third man, Ira Sacks, 37, of Los Angeles, had pleaded guilty to three charges and three other men, including Dr. Lester L. Sacks, 30, of Torrance, were found not guilty.

Council Pay Hike Opposed - - -

The Torrance League of Women Voters will oppose a charter amendment to raise the pay of city councilmen to \$300 per month, Mrs. James van Oppen, president of the League, has said. Mrs. van Oppen said the League is opposed to the pay hike because it considers the measure a piecemeal revision of the charter. She said the League feels the city's Charter Review Committee, which is studying the entire city charter, should be given an opportunity to complete its work before new amendments are submitted to the voters.

4T SPECIAL MEETING

Teachers Win Round With Board

By HENRY BURKE, Press-Herald Staff Writer

Teachers in Torrance will have more of a voice in the business of the school district following action of board of trustees, the administration, and representatives of the Torrance Education Association. The groups held a second special meeting at the district office Wednesday to resolve prior disagreements between the board and faculty body. A format was sought in preparation for salary negotiations scheduled from February through the spring vacation. Communication, organization, timing and procedure are four categories the teachers association has insisted upon for consideration. Communication, it was agreed, will be officially handled by the agenda. Negotiation council meetings will be once a week for the three months from February through April and once a month for the remaining nine months. A staff team, recommended by Superintendent J. H. Hull and approved by the board, will meet and confer with representatives of the teachers. Outside consultants will also be considered. The purpose of the negotiations is to provide a method of agreement between the organized professional group and the board.

Board president Bert Lynn said he is looking forward to one of the best years for the school district now that the dispute has been tentatively resolved. Noell Marble, executive director of TEA said, "We are very pleased with the final results and the cooperative attitude of the meeting and all of us are looking forward to a positive and fruitful year." The compromises agreed upon at the meeting will be presented to the teachers council by new chairman John Conway. He said he would do his best to have the measures approved. Finally, the teachers are to express their own feelings.