

Hallowe'en Hoodlums Given Fair Warning

For many months this space on the front page of The Herald has been reserved for news pictures of current interest.

Today it is still being used for a written news picture of immediate concern to all parents and youngsters in Torrance.

It is a picture that has never been photographed in this city and, if young men and boys have some conception of what malicious mischief is, it won't have to be used.

The picture is the sorry spectacle of Hallowe'en celebrants who became dangerous and destructive with their pranks and so landed in jail where they are photographed behind bars.

That is where those who wantonly destroy property next Monday or Tuesday night will find themselves, according to Torrance police who are determined to curb Hallowe'en damage this year. Police Chief John Stroth will have every officer on duty Monday and Tuesday nights. He declares that anyone found damaging property will be jailed and brought before Police Judge Lessing for sentence.

Already there have been a number of cases of marauding young men who seem to think that they can only have a good time by breaking or smashing someone's property. Reports have reached authorities here that Hallowe'en is going to be a two-night period of trouble for local residents.

Chief Stroth today appealed to parents to help curb some of the Hallowe'en damage by instructing their children not to indulge in pranks that will cause trouble. He said: "We are not going to bother boys and girls who appear to be enjoying Hallowe'en in a considerate manner. But we are going to do our best to stop hoodlums and malicious mischief."

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DEMAND FIRE TRUCK RETURN



AT ANNIVERSARY DINNER . . . Nearly 130 members and visiting guests attended the dinner last night that celebrated the 20th anniversary of St. Andrew's Episcopal church. The above photo shows the speakers' table at the Legion clubhouse. The back of Mayor William H. Tolson's head shows in the left foreground and those from left to right are: Mrs. Herbert Bishop, Mrs. Thomas R. Marshall, Rev. Richard I.

Parker of Hermosa Beach, Mrs. Robert B. Gooden of Los Angeles, Bishop W. Bertrand Stevens of Los Angeles, Rev. Thomas R. Marshall, vicar of the local church; Bishop Robert B. Gooden of Los Angeles, Herbert Bishop, senior warden of the local church; Mrs. Nicholas Cucci, president of St. Cecilia Guild, and Rev. Oscar Nurse of San Pedro.

Torrance Herald Photo.

R. R. STRIP ACQUISITION APPROVED

Carrying negotiations with the Pacific Electric railway for the acquisition of the center right-of-way on Cabrillo avenue to the point of a formal agreement, City Councilman Tom McGuire proposed at the municipal board session Tuesday night that the city engineer be authorized to notify the P.E. that its proposition was acceptable and drew up the necessary agreements pertaining to the purchase of the strip and removal of P.E. property from it.

The motion was approved by the four councilmen present. The right-of-way purchase price is \$8,000. The cost of removing the P.E.'s equipment from the Cabrillo strip from the station to Plaza del Amo has been estimated (by the railway's chief engineer E. C. Johnson) at \$10,300.

Mayor William H. Tolson has stated that he believes the city can do the work or contract with private firms for the job for considerably less than this figure. When the acquisition of the right-of-way was brought up later in the council session Tolson said that the cost of the improvement will come out of gasoline tax funds awarded for the work.

Plains Drain Relief
Other matters transacted by the council before the prolonged discussion of the fire truck deal began were:

City Engineer Leonard Young was authorized to draw up specifications and prepare cost estimates for installation of large box culverts at the intersections of 236th and Lomita boulevard with Hawthorne boulevard to remedy drainage of some 600 acres known as the Ellinwood Sink in Welteria and Meadow Park.

The engineer read a report of his investigations in that area, prompted by a petition signed by 23 residents of the district. He said the culvert at 236th and Hawthorne was of improper design and insufficient size. Furthermore, he pointed out that it had been purposely plugged on the east side to prevent flooding of growing crops. A box culvert, Young said, would help the drainage if it was regularly cleaned out by the street department.

Deny Street Extension
Requests for two permits to operate combined cafe-and-pool-hall, cigar-store-and-card-games at 1222 El Prado and 1515 Cabrillo avenue were denied on the recommendation of Police Chief John Stroth.

Urging the council to adopt a policy of accepting street dedications only when the thoroughfares are improved, Engineer Young recommended that the proposed extension of Date avenue, between Eldorado and Sonoma, be denied. The council followed his suggestion. Young asserted that "raw land for streets is a liability to the city except in the case of major highways and that both the city and county of Los Angeles require dedicated streets to be improved before they are formally accepted."

The sum of \$200 was authorized for the purchase of oil and road material to improve Greenwood avenue from Carson street to Eldorado.

150 Jam Council Chamber to Hear Prolonged Debate

Facing an outright demand that the city return the Mack pump truck delivered to the fire department Sept. 29 and the object of strong controversy ever since, the city council Tuesday night decided to await return of Councilman James Hitchcock from an eastern trip and then reconsider the deal "if the members want to go into the matter."

Mayor Gives Facts About Fire Truck

Summarizing the city council's position in the fire truck deal, Mayor William H. Tolson today issued the following signed statement:

"In order to clarify the city's action in acquiring the Mack fire truck, now under discussion, the following pertinent facts should not be overlooked:

"1. Thronton the negotiations with Theo. Hohgood, manager of the Mack International Motor Truck company, practically every question that has arisen during the past two council meetings was satisfactorily answered, among the more important being:

"2. The truck apparatus and equipment is guaranteed against defective material and improper workmanship.

TIRES STANDARD GRADE
"3. The manufacturer acknowledged as one of the largest, oldest and most reputable truck firms in the U.S.A. assures us in a letter dated August 29, 1939, that 'as this truck is equipped, there are absolutely no new items necessary to bring it right up to date, as it is current Type 95 in every way.'

"4. The tires are standard grade by Firestone and were thoroughly inspected before the fire truck was acquired and found to be in good condition. Since delivery of the truck, competent disinterested fire men have again examined the tires and have found them of current standard size in good condition.

"5. It is common practice on most fire equipment to use more than one carburetor and dual ignition to assure maximum efficiency and reserve substitute facilities in event of failure of one system.

SAVED ABOUT \$5,000
"6. The entire fire truck equipment has been thoroughly tested and approved by the Board of Fire Underwriters.

"7. In acquiring this 'show truck' the Council saved approximately \$5,000 and secured equipment which we have every reason to believe is as good as new. Also in adopting the lease-contract method of acquiring the truck, a tax increase of four cents per \$100 assessed valuation was eliminated, both of which savings we believe will be appreciated by taxpayers.

"8. The City Council invites constructive and sincere criticism at all times. All proceedings are open to inspection by any resident or taxpayer, and members of the Council gladly explain their actions to interested parties. However, we reserve the right to differentiate between honest criticism and political muck-raking.

"Sincerely,
(Signed)
"WM. H. TOLSON."

Armaments Influence Thieves
UKIAH (U.P.)—The unending discussion of armaments is apparently having a psychological effect on thieves. A cannon was stolen at Eureka and a 20-foot steel corrugated iron culvert was removed from beneath a county road near here.

That's what Mayor William H. Tolson told critics of the "rental-with-option-to-buy" proceedings by which the city has taken possession of the fire apparatus at a cost of \$8,600 plus interest. His statement came at the close of a prolonged hearing that attracted the largest crowd to attend a council session since the city hall was opened in 1936.

Spectators lined the walls after every seat was taken and extra chairs became occupied. More than 150 were in the council room. Several more stood outside in the hall and others listened to the debate through the open windows.

No Secret Sessions
Principal speakers in opposition to the fire truck deal were Attorney Albert Isen, B. M. Prewett, Howard P. Raymond, A. D. Stevenson, Ed. Thompson and Abel J. Beach. After more than two hours of talk, the mayor brought the second lengthy discussion of the pump truck's history to a close with a statement in which he reaffirmed his belief that the city made a good buy and declared:

"I don't think the council should take any action on this matter tonight and not until Councilman Hitchcock gets back. If the council then wants to go into the matter again, I'll be glad to do so. I want to point out that there never has been any secret sessions of the council and never will be any so far as I am concerned. The minutes and meetings are open to the public at all times and I like the people to take an interest in our business which is, after all, your business. Under our democratic form of government you are privileged to speak as you have done tonight and by the same right I have a right to express my opinions."

Powell, Murray Speak
Two other councilmen participated in the discussion, which was generally confined to the fire truck negotiations and avoided personalities. They were George V. Powell and John V. Murray. Powell made a statement to the large audience before the meeting was finished with regular business. He said that he "felt at the time we were considering the fire truck matter and still feel that the committee in charge of the fire department had experience enough to guide them in the purchase of the equipment."

"The mayor has been a capable man in the truck business and I didn't feel like questioning his ability and I don't at this time. But if we made a mistake, I'm amenable to make a correction. Possibly we paid too much for the truck. I acted on the recommendation of the committee because I believed

(Continued on Page 6-A)

More Chicken Than You Can Eat
Last week 247 people took their turns in buying served the finest southern fried chicken you can get—and they had more than they could eat. You'll be delightfully amazed when you make up a party of 2 or more and call on the advertiser under classification—

Where To Eat —28

FAMILY STYLE DINNERS
5 to 8 p. m. — Noon to 8 p. m.
Sundays and Holidays
Two Salads Two Vegetables
Homemade Jells and Jams
Southern Fried Chicken — 50c
READ AND USE HERALD WANT ADS FOR PROFIT

Deaths of Child and Boy Held Accidental

Inquest investigations of the deaths of an 18-month-old Redondo Beach baby boy and a 15-year-old Gardena youth last Thursday were conducted Tuesday at Stone and Myers' chapel. The jury verdicts in each case were that the children met their tragic ends accidentally and the persons involved were held blameless.

The child was Manuel Arayan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Refugio Arayan of 401 Hawthorne boulevard, Redondo Beach, who succumbed the day after he was crushed under the wheels of his father's car as the parent started down the residence driveway. Arayan was absolved of blame for the accident.

Richard E. Elliott, who would have been 15 years old on the day of the inquest, died of injuries received when he crashed head on into a car driven by Neal Scannapieco, San Pedro seaman, on Vermont avenue near 161st street in Los Angeles city territory. Scannapieco, who testified the accident was unavoidable, was not held.

Family Lacked Funds
A jury composed of Charles H. Law, D. A. Baird, N. C. Smith, J. E. McNeil, Fred Harder and R. F. Howard, heard seven witnesses tell their stories of the two accidents to J. Pierce Kane, deputy county coroner.

The Arayan child was taken to a local physician immediately after the accident and after treatment, the family was advised to take the infant to a hospital. Because they had no funds for this expense, the family delayed and the following day, when the baby became worse, rushed it to the Torrance Health Center where it expired. Death was due to contusion of the spinal cord, the autopsy report showed.

Richard Elliott, who lived at 15373 Ainsworth street, Gardena, was riding south with two other boys on their bicycles on the east side of Vermont avenue. Scannapieco was going north. The motorist said he was traveling between 30 and 35 miles an hour and also he jammed on his brakes, the Elliott boy plunged into the front of his car.

Died at Hospital Here
The driver denied a claim by Henry Rodarme, 15, also of Gardena who was with young Elliott that he "whipped around another car" and was "way over to the left" at the time of the accident, which occurred about 7 o'clock last Thursday.

The Elliott boy succumbed at Torrance Memorial hospital shortly afterward, his death being attributed to a fractured skull.

United States railroads carry about 500 million passengers a year.

48 Known Used Car Buyers—8 Sold—

"We had 48 people call on our lot over a seven day period, in response to a Want Ad we ran in the Herald Oct. 12, 1939. Eight of these people bought used cars," says O. K. Larson, used car manager for Ed Thompson, local authorized Chevrolet dealer. Glad to hear it O. K. With Ed standing behind his cars, his advertising means something to the public who all turn to classified when they want cars. As for their response over a 7 day period, remember, thirty families—89 percent of them—keep this paper from one publication day to the other. Thus you get 7 days for the price of one.

Gas Station Bandits Hit Local Firm

Authorities in three counties are hunting for five men who are said to have robbed eight or nine service stations in Riverside county, swept into Los Angeles county where they held up five more—including one in Torrance—and then continued their banditry in Orange county during a 48-hour period early this week.

On their arrival in this county Monday night the quintet is reported to have held up a service station at Carson and Main streets getting a few dollars. Then they proceeded to the Shell station at Hawthorne boulevard and Highway 101 where they menaced Bud Burce, the attendant who lives at 24410 Los Codona in Welteria, and obtained about \$30.

Next the bandits were reported in Palos Verdes where they stopped a Los Angeles man, took his new car and left their machine which had been wrecked in the hills. Hollywood was their next stop and then in East Los Angeles the fast-moving five robbed another service station and fled in a third machine which they stole.

Later Orange county authorities received reports of similar robberies by five men. Burce said the mob arrived at his station about 9:35 o'clock Monday night. Two covered him with revolvers and emptied his cash drawer while the other three remained in the car. Burce was unable to furnish local officers and deputy sheriffs with identification data.

Resident Seeks \$325 Damages From City

James A. Hudson of 1827 West 182nd street presented a claim for \$325 damages to the city council Tuesday night, asserting that his property had been injured to that extent because of improper drainage work on 182nd street. The claim was taken under advisement.

City Engineer Leonard Young countered Hudson's assertions, declaring that the natural water course in that area "is right thru his property." This statement was denied by Mrs. Hudson and a Mr. Key who stated that until the heavy rains the first of this month, no water had ever collected on the property.

Rotary Governor Visits Here Tonight

Otto Nelson, governor of 107th District, Rotary International, will pay an official visit to the Torrance Rotary club this evening. Prior to the dinner meeting, Governor Nelson will meet with the directors and committeemen at the home of Harry M. Abramson, 1608 Post avenue, according to H. E. Appenzeller, president.

Hey Kids! Win Prizes! Hallowe'en Costume Parade



Every youngster in Torrance and vicinity is invited! It's a Hallowe'en party for all of them—from two-year-old toddlers up to 16-year-old boys and girls—with noise-makers, confetti and 10 fine prizes for the best costumes and the youngster with the most freckles!

And this special attraction to celebrate the traditional "spook night" will be held in Torrance next Tuesday evening, Oct. 31, starting promptly at 7:30 o'clock. It is being sponsored by the Torrance Retail Merchants Association.

Boys and girls are invited to gather at Post and Sartori avenues by 7:15 so the parade can start right on time. They should wear Hallowe'en costumes and there ought to be plenty of ghosts, goblins, skeletons, witches on the lot—together with a host of other gaily-garbed figures.

The parade will proceed down Sartori to Marcelina avenue where a group of judges will decide the prize winners. Horns and other noise-makers will be furnished the young marchers thru the courtesy of the Star Furniture Store and confetti will also be distributed to add to the fun.

Judges will be a group of local merchants. The prize classifications are: For the most freckled boy or girl, a Brownie camera from United Cut Rate Drug; For the best costumes in the age group from two to six years: a beautiful doll from J. J. Newberry Co., a toy truck loaded with candy from Cornet 5-20-25c Store, and a teddy bear from the National Home Appliance Co.

For the best costumes in the group from seven to 10 years of age: a large doll, a regulation football and a pair of fine roller skates from the J. C. Penney Co. For the best costumes in the group from 10 to 15 years of age: a boy's or girl's wool sweater from Levy's Department Store; a Boy Scout knife from J. J. Newberry Co. and a combination pen and pencil set from the R-B Cut Rate Drug store.

Chest Donors Total 90 Here

Four more contributions to the Torrance community chest fund of \$1,800 being raised by the Torrance Community Service Association were received during the past week, it was reported today from the Chamber of Commerce. The donors were:

Torrance Auto Wreckers
Sam Levy
Mildred Lancaster
Robert and Kathryn McCallum.

A report on the total receipts and status of the fund drive is expected when Postmaster Earl Conner, who is chairman of the campaign, returns from the east. Ninety local residents and firms have subscribed to date.

Trio Gets Long Prison Terms for 95 Robberies

A trail of service station banditry that included two stops in Torrance among 95 along a route from Southern California to Denver, Colo., ended for three young hoodlums this week in Canon City penitentiary where each began serving 21-year terms.

This was the information given Police Chief John Stroth Monday by deputy sheriffs who had assisted Colorado authorities in the conviction of Milton Voach Conde, 19; George Burton, 19, both of Utah and Fritz Decker, 17, of Oklahoma.

Conde and Burton were identified from police photographs as the pair who held up and robbed John Disario, attendant at the General Petroleum station, corner of Post and Sartori avenues, of about \$65 on the night of Sept. 7 and on the following night obtained \$4 from Ray Schumacher at the Rio Grande station, corner of Craven avenue and Torrance boulevard.

That pair, with Decker, admitted "sticking up" 95 service stations en route to Denver where they were arrested in the act of robbing their 96th station. They were quickly brought to trial and their convictions and imprisonment followed.

New Building Totals \$7,120

This week's building permits, issued from the city engineer's office, totaled \$7,120. The new construction projects were as follows: United Sulphur and Chemical company, erection of a corrugated iron, mill room 12 by 20 by 10 feet in size, costing \$500, at the firm's recently purchased property at 1801-11 213th street; K. Kanagawa, two moved-in sheds at 1801 Maple avenue, \$100.

Harbor City Legion Invites Public to Navy Entertainment

Harbor City American Legion post is observing "Navy Night" this evening with a public program at the old brick hall, 253rd and Bellepointe avenue. Marshall B. Airey is chairman in charge of arrangements. All Navy men in the post will assist in the program. Lieut. Rooney of the U.S.S. Tennessee will be the speaker and about 20 musicians and other entertainers from the Tennessee will participate in the entertainment. A "real Navy feed" will follow. Commander Roy Brown cordially invites the public to attend.