

# Boy Scout, 13, Slugged by Gang of Hoods in Black Car

## Today's Weather

Sunny skies with slightly cooler temperatures are in store for Torrance today and tonight with a high today of about 76 expected, the weatherman said. Increasing high cloudiness is expected Friday.

# TORRANCE HERALD



36th YEAR—No. 7

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA—THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1950

20 PAGES

## ELECTION OF NEW MAYOR FORCED; SHERFEY DROPS COUNCIL RACE

### Second Term Nixed Also By Councilman Jackson

A new mayor for the city of Torrance will be chosen in April following action taken by Mayor J. Hugh Sherfey Jr.

Mayor Sherfey and Councilman A. L. Jackson, whose councilmanic posts become vacant in April, issued a formal statement late yesterday that they would not seek reelection.

If seniority on the council is considered by the members of the council when they select one of their own group as mayor, three men will be in line for the job.

The three, all incumbents, are Bob L. Haggard, Nick Dralle and George C. Powell.

However, the mayor's post could well go to one of two new councilmen who will be elected on April 11.

A. H. Bartlett, city clerk, said late yesterday that no one had formally filed an intention to run for the posts to be vacated by Sherfey and Jackson.

Both Sherfey and Jackson in a press conference stated that the heavy load of municipal business demanded so much of their time that they were neglecting their businesses and families.

Sherfey is co-owner of the Stone and Myers Mortuary and has recently opened another establishment in Redondo Beach.

Jackson is plant superintendent of the International Derrick and Equipment Company.

In their statement Sherfey and Jackson stated:

"We the undersigned, Mayor J. Hugh Sherfey Jr. and A. L. Jackson, currently serving as councilmen in the city of Torrance, formally announce that we will not seek reelection during the coming election in April.

The past four years have made extraordinary demands on our patience and understanding on our business and our families. We feel we cannot serve another term and remain fair to our respective business and families.

We desire to express our personal appreciation for the cooperation shown and given us as councilmen by all the citizens of the community, the city employees, and the past and present members of the city council."

### Torrance Printer Heads Plans for National Guard

Major Robert L. Lewellen has been appointed head of plans and training for the 40th Infantry Division of the National Guard, according to an announcement this week by Major General Daniel H. Hudson, an authority issued by California's Adjutant-General, Major General Curtis D. O'Sullivan.

Major Lewellen, well known Torrance printer, was formerly battalion commander of the Second Battalion, Fourth Regiment, stationed at the Long Beach Armory.

Before then, he helped organize the 578th Engineer Battalion (Combat) at the Torrance Air Strip.

He has been a member of the National Guard since 1941 and during the war spent two years in active service in anti-sabotage and intelligence work.

His new headquarters will be at 40th Division Headquarters, at the Los Angeles Armory, 700 Exposition boulevard, Los Angeles.

**DOZEN EGGS A MINUTE**  
Eight dozen eggs were stolen from his car Friday while he was gone only eight minutes, Richard Hogerhois, 20708 Elliot avenue, told police.

### Fate of City's Bus Line in Hands of Voters

Torrance voters will vote on three, possibly four, propositions and two councilmanic posts in the coming municipal election of the city council Tuesday night.

Included in the four "Yes" or "No" measures is a proposition to sell the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines to a private concern.

Crossed off the list of propositions was the controversial "Ward System" proposal. The matter was decided by a split 3-2 vote of the council to be withheld until the November election.

Also dropped from an earlier list of ballot propositions to be brought before the people was a proposal to increase the salary of the City Treasurer. An opinion rendered by City Attorney C. Douglass Smith indicated that the City Treasurer's salary may be raised by an ordinance passed by the City Council.

Other measures to be placed on the ballot include a pay allowance for councilman of \$100 per month and a \$250,000 bond issue to finance the construction of a swimming pool.

Still to be decided upon by the Council is a proposition which would amend the City Charter to grant the City Court jurisdiction over limited civil action.

City Court Judge Otto B. Willett recommended the proposed amendment be withheld from the April ballot. He pointed out that the state voters in the November election would be asked to consider creating a municipal court for this area. To

(Continued on Page 2)

### Recreation Needs To Be Told at Council Meeting

Bud Lee, chairman of the Torrance Recreation Commission, invited the residents of Torrance to attend the City Council meeting on February 23 to hear a state report on the local recreation situation.

Ferdinand Barr, state director of recreation, will present the findings of a comprehensive study of the recreational facilities within the city as well as those adjacent to the city such as those in Lomita, Shoestring Strip, El Nido and Alondra Park.

'Cab' Driver Gets Lumps For Chivalry

The next time taxicab driver William McGhee will think twice before escorting a fair fare to her door from his cab on a late night call.

He told police he was called to Yurp's Cafe at about 2 a.m. Saturday morning where he picked up a young lady who directed him to take her to Torrance boulevard and Hawthorne avenue "where she lived."

Arriving there, he said, she asked him to escort her to the door of her home, behind a market there. As they rounded the rear of the market, he said, two men jumped from the shadows and began belaboring his head with blackjacks.

He said he ran back to the street with the two men in pursuit. He said the men mentioned something about money. As he got to the street, he said, two cars came by and his assailants fled, taking their "lure" with them.

(Continued on Page 2)

### New Waleria School Building Contract Let

The Gallenger Construction Company of 1209 190th street, Gardena, was awarded a contract this week to build a 12-classroom elementary school in Waleria on a bid of \$278,878.

Five bids were received, ranging from the low bids up to \$310,000. Two bids arrived too late for consideration, but the lowest one was \$287,000.

The contract calls for completion of the school at Madison and Newton streets by August 15.

Besides the classrooms, the school will include rooms for a combination cafeteria and auditorium, kindergarten, administrative office, reception room, health room, teachers' work room, conference room, supply room and lavatories.

The school will be of the same general architectural plan as the recently completed Seaside Ranches Elementary School, but will be more compact and adapted

(Continued on Page 2)



BOY SCOUT JOHN SOUSA

... Beaten By Hoodlums In Black Sedan

### Gang Escapes in Black Car After Beating Youth

A gang of hoodlums leaped from a black 1936 sedan Tuesday night to severely beat and slug a 13-year-old youth returning from a Boy Scout Valentine party.

Victim of the beating was John Sousa, of 626 Pine drive, a Star Scout in Troop 219.

The boy, an eighth grader at Torrance High School, told police he had just crossed Torrance boulevard at Madrid avenue when a black sedan loaded with boys pulled along side of him. Two of the attackers jumped from the car and without uttering a single word started slugging Sousa about the head and neck. He said he felt certain that the attackers had some heavy object clenched in their fists, judging from the force of the blows.

Sousa was taken to the Harbor General Hospital by his mother Mrs. Mary Sousa and a neighbor, George Fredericks, of 622 Pine drive. Doctors took from 8 to 10 stitches over the West 214th street, walked into Weaver's cafe at 1500 West Carson street with Weaver's former wife.

Weaver, who lives at 22410 South Normandie avenue, is in jail in lieu of \$2500 bond.

The youth told police he could not find any reason for the beating.

(Continued on Page 2)

### Hubby Faces Court; Shot Wife's Friend

Harold Weaver, 35-year-old cafe owner, said to have shot a man who was paying attention to Weaver's former wife, will be arraigned February 16 in Long Beach superior court on charges of assault with intent to commit murder.

The shooting was said to have occurred January 23 when James Cullinan, 21, of 1662 West 214th street, walked into Weaver's cafe at 1500 West Carson street with Weaver's former wife.

Weaver, who lives at 22410 South Normandie avenue, is in jail in lieu of \$2500 bond.

(Continued on Page 2)

### Judge Learns Mexican Law Short Hemline Too Revealing

Judge John A. Shidler is being chided this week about his recent trip to Mexico when the "shoe was on the other foot."

The learned barrister has looked across the bench at many defendants since he first donned the black robe as Judge of the Torrance City Court and later as Justice of the Gardena Justice court, and still later as a Municipal Judge in Los Angeles and Van Nuys.

During a recent vacation trip to Yucatan, Mexico with his movie-actress wife—Rosemary DeCamp—the local law scholar discovered he knew far more about American law than he did about Mexican law.

The lack of knowledge landed the judge—if you'll pardon the expression—in jail.

The situation may be humorous now, but it wasn't then. The natives of the quaint Mexican village take their jailings seriously. A garrison of law-abiding citizens and local cops cocked their muskets and stationed guards around the jail. They even sold seats outside the jail and the curb soon looked like Orange avenue in Pasadena during the middle of a Rose Parade.

After much dickering and several councils of war by the local police it was finally decided that the judge would be freed if—his would put on a pair of pants. He was jailed for wearing sport shorts.



(See Story P-2)

**WILLING HELPER** ... Three-year-old Judith Ann Jones of 1607 Post avenue, one of the six Torrance polo victims last year, holds a miniature iron lung while representatives of the Junior Woman's Club slip a \$100 check into the canister. Pictured are Mrs. Albert Posner, director of philanthropy for the club (left), and Mrs. Phillip Jensen, president of the local women's group.—Herald Photo.



MAYOR SHERFEY ... To Quit in April



COUNCILMAN JACKSON ... And He Too!

### 2500 New Jobs Predicted Here

There will be at least 2500 new jobs available in Torrance before this year ends, Winona Ellis, manager of the Torrance office of the California Department of Employment, said yesterday. Most of these will be created by the coming of new plants such as the new plant of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company.

But, she added, people are still swarming into Torrance and this area as fast as the new jobs open. The Chamber of Commerce has estimated 4000 new residents will come to Torrance this year, of whom about 1000 will be workers.

So, she sees little possibility of lowering the registered pool of unemployment, which now stands at 900, an increase from 743 in January, and 734 in December. Present unemployment, however, is no larger than it was a year ago, she said, despite large scale layoffs in local factories which, she feels, cleaned out the last of the postwar surplus employees, leaving local factory employment stabilized for an indefinite period.

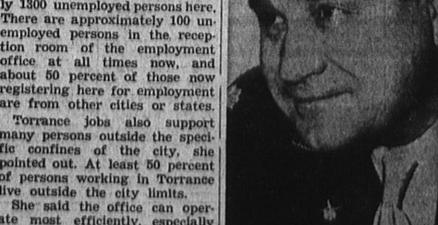
Seasonal unemployment in construction and agriculture are expected to boost unemployment figures above the 900 mark during the remainder of this month. There are now approximately 7000 persons employed in Torrance.

Registered unemployed persons account for approximately 70 percent of the actual unemployed persons in Torrance, Mrs. Ellis said. That means there are actually approximately 1300 unemployed persons here. There are approximately 100 unemployed persons in the reception room of the employment office at all times now, and about 50 percent of those now registering here for employment are from other cities or states.

Torrance jobs also support many persons outside the specific confines of the city, she pointed out. At least 50 percent of persons working in Torrance live outside the city limits.

She said the office can operate most efficiently, especially in an industrial city of this type, if available jobs are listed with the local office at 1623 Cravens avenue, so local residents can be served first.

An analysis of the unemployment statistics for the past month reveal that of the 899



MAJOR ROBERT LEWELLEN ... New Head of Guard Plans

—Herald photo