

# Number Please: It Will Be FAirfax Next Summer



Torrance telephone numbers will be a thing of the past after next summer when a new FAirfax prefix for area telephones is placed into operation with the advent of a dial telephone system here, A. B. Smith, manager of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co., revealed yesterday.

Smith said that the company is now making plans to change the numbers of all Torrance telephones from four digits, or less, to five numerals, preceded by the FAirfax prefix. This is to conform with a uniform numbering plan for dial instruments throughout Southern California.

**Many Numbers Tested**

Selection of FAirfax as the new prefix name for Torrance telephones resulted from extensive tests made by telephone company engineers of names which might be phonetically suitable.

The FAirfax prefix, once used to designate a Los Angeles office, now will be unique to Torrance from numbers throughout the nation.

Telephone engineers, who spend eight hours a day trying out suggested prefix names, found that FAirfax is a name which falls within the limits of the numerical code available for use with the new dial switching equipment which will be installed in the recently completed \$250,000 central office building at 1307 Cravens Ave.

**Easily Understandable**

It also is a name which may be pronounced distinctly and be easily understood.

There are now 6000 telephones in the Torrance exchange, an increase of nearly 300 in the past year and more than 3000 or 100 per cent since the end of World War II.

For those in the Lomita telephone exchange, the prefix will be switched to DAVenport when that area goes on to dial phones next summer.

DAVenport phones will operate through a new central exchange station now being built on Walnut St. near Pacific Coast Hwy.

Although not directly connected with the announcement by Smith that dial phones here will go into effect next summer, telephone officials attending a recent conference announced that nationwide operator toll dialing from Los Angeles to major cities over the country was forthcoming in 1954.

Such a system would permit operators to dial customers' numbers direct in distant cities.

**Phone Co. Advances**

"Selection of FAirfax for Torrance new telephone prefix for Torrance telephones," Smith said, "advances our telephone company another step forward in its dial conversion program here. This program will be accelerated during the coming months toward the goal of converting all Torrance telephones to dial operation in a system which will rank with the most modern in the world."

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# NEW AIRCRAFT PLANT HERE PRODUCING NAVY SKYRAIDER

## 800 Men On Line At Plant

Assembly of fuselages for the Navy's famous Douglas Skyraiders got under way at the new Douglas Aircraft plant here on a limited scale just 38 days after the company started moving into the plant, it was disclosed yesterday.

About 800 men are now on the production line and a gradual build-up is in progress, a company spokesman said.

Transfer of the manufacturing departments from the El Segundo Division was accomplished in a 64-hour, non-stop move, it was reported. Equipment was moved in from Santa Monica, El Segundo, and Long Beach plants of the company.

The company's recruiting program for the local firm calls for the orderly and progressive build-up of the working force at the plant. The employment office at 192nd St. and Denker Ave. is open daily to accept applications.

Torrance and Gardena bus lines offer direct or connecting service to Los Angeles, Compton, Long Beach, and other nearby communities, an employer official stated.



**SMASH-UP VICTIM** . . . DeWayne Hansen, 26, is lifted onto a stretcher following a traffic accident at 235th St. and Walnut Ave. late Sunday afternoon. Hansen, a sailor, suffered a possible fractured thigh. Ambulance attendants are Dave Figueredo, left, and Clarence Richardson. Traffic officer is D. S. Hamilton.

## Find Trucker's Body At Sea, Seek Others

Whether two men believed to be sailing in a rickety 38-foot converted landing ship in search of a treasure of valuable zinc are still alive remains a mystery, Coast Guardsmen at Long Beach Harbor told the Herald yesterday afternoon.

The body of a third man, a Torrance truck driver, who started off on the long, seaward voyage has been found—floating three miles off El Segundo.

Identified as Millard Loren McAdress, 27, of 4413 Torrance Blvd., the body wore a life jacket and a 25-foot section of half-inch rope.

**Left Port June 12**

McAdress left port June 12 with Howard Scruggs, deep sea diver, and Jesse Brockman, another truck driver, both residents of a trailer park at 18616 S. Figueroa St., according to Coast Guard officials. The trio was in search of a cargo of zinc which they hoped to salvage from the water near Eureka, Calif.

The boat, obtained from a salvage yard at 402 W. 223rd St., was purchased for \$800. The converted craft was described as entirely unseaworthy, and one Coast Guardsman commented: "I wouldn't have left the harbor in such a craft."

McAdress' body was found fully clothed. A flashlight, pencil and identification papers were found in his pockets. His wife, Dorothy, told investigators she believed there were four in the salvage party.

The wives of Scruggs and Brockman live in the trailer court. Each has three children.

Authorities have theorized that the men may have been lost at sea when they tried to reach safety in an 18-foot skiff after their landing ship capsized in heavy seas. A small skiff washed ashore at White's Point last week, possibly their rescue craft.



**HARRY T. GREEN** Takes Over New Command

## Harry Green Named Legion Commander

Harry T. Green, veteran of the first world war, was named commander of the Bert S. Crossland Post 170 of the American Legion Tuesday evening as the Legionnaires gave him their unanimous vote for the office.

The new commander, who succeeded Robert T. "Bob" Faren in the post, was celebrating his birthday the same day and was presented a pair of gold cuff links by the group following the election.

After the election proceedings were completed, the new commander boarded a plane at the International Airport where he flew to Montana to inspect some property there.

Gordon Arnold, a World War II veteran, was elected first vice-commander and Tim Cunningham was named second vice-commander.

Other officers chosen included C. J. "Paddy" Ryan, chaplain; Vern Babeock, finance officer; Clarence Younken, historian; Vern Coll, service officer; Bob Ernst, adjutant; and Dale Laskaris, sergeant-at-arms. Ralph Dodge and Hugh Stumpf were named assistant sergeants-at-arms.

## Court Asked To Dissolve Partnership

Filed in Superior Court this week was a suit seeking to dissolve a partnership agreement between Grover C. Whyte, owner and publisher of the Torrance Herald, and Edwin B. Brown, who has a 10 per cent interest in the business.

The suit, asking the partnership agreement be dissolved and that an accounting be made so that each principal might receive his pro rata share of the business, was filed by Brown in Long Beach through his attorney, Samuel V. Cornell of Compton.

Brown's action followed a bedside conference on June 21 in Whyte's home. Whyte, publisher of the Herald for the past 29 years has been confined to bed following a heart attack on April 21.

Listed as defendants in the suit also are Jack O. Baldwin, who returned to the Herald last January to serve as assistant to the publisher, and Clay B. Carley, production manager of the local newspaper.

The action is all "on paper" and will not affect the publication of the Herald or any of the eight other newspapers published by the Herald. The other newspapers include the Lomita Light, Harbor City Herald, Key Stone Courier, Riviera-Seaside Sun, Waverly-Pacific Hills News, Torrance Neighborhood News, North Torrance Times, and El Nido News.

Not involved in the legal action is any portion of the Torrance Herald building, which is owned solely by the Whyte family and not by the newspaper.

## Materials Delay Start of New Dow Plant Here

Construction of a new \$2,000,000 Dow Chemical Co. manufacturing facility on a 54-acre site in the 400 block on Crenshaw Blvd. will be started as soon as materials are available, a spokesman for the firm told the Herald yesterday.

The new plant, which has been in the planning stage for more than a year, will be a plastic plant, manufacturing basic raw materials for the plastic industry, it was disclosed.

Operation of the new facility will be completely separate from the Dow Chemical Co. plant at 2021 S. Vermont Ave., one official pointed out. The Vermont Ave. plant is operated by Dow for the Reconstruction Finance Corp. and produces styrene.

Ground breaking ceremonies for the plant are being delayed until material can be obtained for construction. The National Production Authority last week granted allotments for the material when available.

## Sailor Injured As Cars Collide

DeWayne Hansen, 26, a sailor stationed at San Diego, was seriously injured late Saturday afternoon when his car collided with another at 235th St. and Walnut Ave., according to police.

Hansen, driving west on 235th St., crashed with a car driven by Carl Wayne Gordon, 34, of 1645 W. Pacific Coast Hwy., Harbor City. Gordon was headed north on Walnut St.

The light sedan driven by Hansen left the road, roared through a natural gas pipe installation at a nearby oil well location, traveled some 35 feet and came to rest against a fire hydrant.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital by P&M ambulance, Hansen suffered from shock, and a possible fractured left leg. Gordon, though shaken up, refused medical attention at the scene.

Both cars were severely damaged, according to officers D. S. Hamilton and W. R. Lewis.

## Not Murdered, Detectives Say After Probe

Dudley M. Solomon, 46-year-old upholsterer, was not murdered but died from injuries received when he fell to the pavement from a trailer house after attending a party with some friends, Det. Sgt. Les Haight of the Sheriff's Homicide Division said yesterday.

Investigators were told by residents of a trailer park at 618 E. Carson St., that Solomon had been pushed from a trailer and then struck with a three-foot section of board. He died several days later, June 23, at Harbor General Hospital of head injuries.

Kidd then packed up his bags, took his wife, and moved from the Carson St. trailer park to the 21422 S. Vermont Ave., who officers later learned was asleep in his car during the purported fracas which took place at his trailer.

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## Another Record Year Reported By Post Office

More people mail letters in Torrance than anybody.

That was the conclusion drawn yesterday from reports of the Torrance Postmaster Clara B. Conner that the fiscal year ending June 30 was another record year for the local post office.

Mrs. Conner reported that the local post office did a total of \$240,092.77 in business from July 1, 1951 to June 30, 1952 as compared to only \$189,436.38 for the previous year.

During the month of June, the post office receipts totaled \$17,093.66. During the same month in 1951, the receipts were \$14,178.50.

## YMCA Annual Meeting Slated

Annual meeting of the YMCA will be held in the Civic Auditorium Tuesday evening, July 16, it was announced yesterday by Dr. Rollin R. Smith, chairman of the board of managers.

Yearly reports of the various YMCA committees will be rendered at that time, Smith said. Also on hand will be a top speaker.

Tickets for the dinner meeting are now being sold by YMCA leaders for \$1.50.

## New YMCA Secretary Announced by Board

New executive secretary of the Torrance YMCA will be Stanley G. Roberts, general secretary of the Grand Island, Neb. YMCA. Dr. Rollin R. Smith, chairman of the board of managers, announced yesterday.

Roberts, a veteran of 16 years in "Y" work, will assume his duties here about July 15. He succeeds L. Milton Isbell, who resigned in April.

**Board Concurs**

"Mr. Roberts comes to us highly recommended by officials of the Metropolitan YMCA, who interviewed a number of top candidates for the position. The Torrance board of managers enthusiastically concurred in their judgment when we met him several weeks ago," Dr. Smith declared.

"We are confident that Roberts' wide experience and proven ability, will enable our 'Y' to continue its highly effective service to the youth of Torrance."

The new executive secretary was graduated from Macalester College, Minn., in 1934 and took a master's degree in group work at George Williams College, Y.M.C.A. professional school in Chicago.

**Wide Experience**

Roberts has had extensive "Y" experience, having served as a branch executive secretary, building boys secretary, and citywide boys secretary in the middle west.

Prior to taking the Grand Island position, he was asso-



**STANLEY ROBERTS** . . . New Y Secretary

**JOKE'S ON HIM**

In Peoria, Ill., a thief broke into a home and made off with a bulging wallet. His joy will be short-lived, though, when he discovers the wallet is stuffed with play money belonging to the 9-year-old boy of the household. There's an unexpected result. You can expect the results to be good, though, when you use the Big "9" Classified Ads to sell surplus household items for real hard cash. It's easy to place your ad. Just phone Torrance 444. Do it NOW!

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