

Seaside Heights Parents Told School Switch Unlikely

CIVIC LEADER CARL STEELE DIES

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Young Girl Seriously Injured When Struck on Street by Auto



DANCING GIRLS... The Sultan of Tartarville's favorite princesses, Janet Van Dyke, front, and Barbara Heger, rear, will dance to the mysterious strains of the song "Istanbul" at the Torrance High School variety show, "Blackouts on Review," which will be shown to students today and tomorrow and to adults tomorrow night at 8:15 in the school auditorium. (Herald photo)

Member of First School Board Dies

Carl D. Steele, one of Torrance's most highly respected civic leaders, died here at 11:25 a.m. yesterday following an illness of several weeks.

A member of the present Board of Education and one of the prime movers in organizing the Torrance Unified School District, Mr. Steele had served with the board since its inception in 1947.

Born in Pier City, Mo., deep in the Ozark Mountains, in 1889, Mr. Steele spent most of his adult life working in steel mills throughout the Middle West and Pacific Coast. He joined Columbia Steel here in 1927 and was employed until his recent illness as a finisher on the 12-inch merchant mill in the plant.

In 1940, Governor Culbert Olson appointed Mr. Steele chairman of the local Selective Service Board No. 280 in which capacity he served until the board was closed in 1947.

Organized Union
Prior to that, he had been instrumental in organizing the steelworkers' union at the Columbia plant here and served the group as its first president beginning in 1937. He was re-elected to the presidency three times during the formative years of the union, and he has always been looked to for guidance on matters pertaining to the union.

A resident at 1320 Cota Ave. for many years, Mr. Steele leaves his widow, two children, two brothers, and two sisters.

Surviving are his widow, Verda, to whom he has been married 37 years; a daughter, Mrs. Maxine Jensen, of 1314 Hickory Ave.; and a son, Duane, of the home address, 1320 Cota Ave. He is also survived by two brothers, G. J. Steele, of 907 Fortuna Ave., and Lee, of Oklahoma City; and two sisters, Mrs. E. B. Gravette, of Gardena; and Mrs. Otto Anderson, of Grove, Okla.

Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced from Stone and Myers Mortuary.



CARL D. STEELE
Civic Career Ends

Move to Make Fluoridation Illegal Debated

Spurred by a proposal to make it against the law to introduce fluorides into any California city's drinking water, public hearings on the controversial fluoridation issue moved from Los Angeles to San Francisco this week.

The Torrance Chamber of Commerce is presently studying the pros and cons of a plan to add fluorides to the city water supply.

Assemblyman Stanford C. Shaw, chairman of the assembly interim subcommittee on public health, said that the next hearings on fluoridation would be held in the Northern city on Dec. 15.

A stormy local session on the issue closed in Los Angeles this week. Fluoridation is said by some to be a means of preventing tooth decay in children, but is called by others "poisonous," and it is pointed out that sodium fluoride is used as a very effective rat poison.

These points and others were brought out at the Los Angeles hearings, which were prompted by a proposed assembly bill that would make it a crime to introduce fluorides into drinking water.

Dr. C. Morley Sellery, director of health in the L.A. city school system, speaking against the bill, said that public health officials do not consider the addition of fluorides to water as being the same as the introduction of a foreign element.

Date Set for Bond Vote

Vote on a proposed \$8 million school bond issue has been tentatively set for March 9, 1954, it was announced yesterday by school officials. The date must be confirmed by the County Counsel's office before it becomes official.

Striking Union Eases Terms for North American

Striking union members and North American Aviation Co. officials started negotiating again this week after the union Monday lessened its demands, although the company remained adamant in holding to its original pre-strike offer.

CIO-UAW employees, striking here, at Downey, Los Angeles, Fresno, and Columbus, Ohio, since Oct. 23 for a 26-cent-an-hour increase and other benefits, have restated proposals, specifying demands ranging from 10 to 28 cents an hour.

An across-the-board hike of 10 cents an hour is proposed plus an additional 10 cents for skilled workers.

The company has offered an across-the-board increase of four cents which would mean hourly hikes of eight cents an hour, spokesmen specified. This offer would bring the company on a par with the air industry in the affected areas, they said.

New Proposal
The new union proposal, made by John W. Livingston, UAW vice-president and director of the union's national aircraft department, also included a decrease in projected severance pay and a withdrawal of a demand for a pension program.

The union originally sought severance pay of \$150 for each year's service not to exceed \$1500. The Monday specification provided for the \$75 per year of service not to exceed \$750.

The union also retreated from its demand for a full union shop, stating, instead, that employees should be required to join within a specified period.

Company Terms
The company wants maintenance of membership under which present union members would remain members for a specified period of time, but new employees would not be required to join the union.

Union and company also disagree on upgrading and arbitration rulings, should be on a seniority basis, says the union, while the company contends that although seniority should be a factor, skill and ability should also be considered.

The union asks that arbitration be extended to the point where the arbitrator could fix the degree of guilt of the party in the wrong as well as rule on an issue; the company claims this would be "outside control of a management function."

By submitting the new demands, Livingston said "the proposals cover the principal issues in the dispute and represent a substantial change in the union's position."

E. D. Starkweather, director of industrial relations for North American declared:

"We are glad to see the UAW coming down from its original highly inflated demands, but these latest demands still are impossible.

"We have told the union repeatedly that the company's offer is our best offer and our position is unchangeable.

Countering, Livingston said that if the company exhibited the same good faith as the union, "there is no good reason why an honorable settlement cannot be reached in a matter of days."

Group of Parents Visit School Board

A large delegation of Seaside Heights parents were told by school officials here Tuesday evening that no plans had been made to move their children from the Seaside Elementary School to the new Meadow Park bungalow school when it opens early next year.

The announcement at the board of education meeting came as a result of unfounded rumors which had been spread throughout the hilltop community that their children were going to be switched to the new school when it was completed.

F. W. Burk, who assumed the role of spokesman for the group, said they had bought their homes in the Heights area with the understanding that their children would attend the school then being built a few blocks away. He told the board: "We have heard that the children will be sent to Meadow Park. That's about three miles from our homes as the crow flies."

Study Under Way
Dr. J. H. Hull, school superintendent and secretary of the Board of Education, told the parents that the school district was making studies now of the attendance zoning for the new school.

"From facts now at hand it looks like we will be able to fill the school without reaching into the Seaside area," he said. "It appears that it would not be appropriate to make any changes among the Seaside residents."

Problem Outlined
The school superintendent outlined some of the considerations involved in drawing up school attendance boundaries.

He said that the grouping of students' homes was one of the prime factors, but that the school board and school administrators gave strong consideration to the streets to be crossed enroute to school, the transportation situation, and the future school sites and needs of the area.

No final decision on the area to be placed in the Meadow Park attendance zone will be made until after the Christmas vacation, school officials said.

Postmaster Announces Special Hours, Stations for Christmas

For the convenience of patrons of the Torrance Post Office, Postmaster Clara A. Conner has announced special hours and the opening of special Christmas Stations to handle the influx of Christmas mail during the next few weeks. Dates and hours which the stations will be open are given:

Main Post Office, 1433 Marcelina Ave. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
December 10 to 23rd (Except Sundays) 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sundays: December 13 and 20 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

REGULAR STATIONS
Station "A," 23433 S. Western Ave. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Carson Station, 21782 S. Avalon 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
El Camino College, Crenshaw and Redondo Beach Blvds. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CHRISTMAS STATIONS
1600 Border Ave. Dec. 10 to 24—10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Manor Market, 17516 Crenshaw Blvd. Dec. 10 to 23—10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
O. Yeaman's 2518 Torrance Blvd. Dec. 10 to 23—10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Seaside Rancho Market, 23354 Roberts Rd. Dec. 14 to 19—1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

ALSO
Walteria Post Office, Newton at Hawthorne—8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Second Tragedy Hits Fatherless Family of Seven

Still hospitalized at Harbor General today with a brain concussion sustained when she was struck by an auto Sunday is 10-year-old Catherine Rickabaugh, daughter of Mrs. Arlene Rickabaugh and the late Charles E. Rickabaugh Jr., 3940 W. 171st St.

The little girl, who attends Crenshaw Elementary School, was tossed five feet into the air when a car driven by Suzanne Haydins, 17, of Los Angeles struck her as she was running across Redondo Beach Blvd. near Prairie Ave.

Taken first to Park Emergency Hospital in Gardena, she was later transferred to Harbor General with the concussion, severe pavement burns on her right hip and arm, and a black eye. Her condition is improved, "but we don't know when she'll be well enough to come home," Mrs. Rickabaugh said.

This is the second time in a two-year span that tragedy has struck the Rickabaugh home. In November, 1951, the father, an employee at Northrop Aviation, lost a 12-day battle with polio, dying a bare two weeks before the birth of his fifth child, Charlotte, who will be two Sunday.

The aircraft worker became ill with what he thought was the flu on Nov. 6. When paralysis set in the second day, he was rushed to the hospital, where the doctor diagnosed polio. After a tracheotomy, he was placed in an iron lung but lapsed into a coma.

Although Rickabaugh later regained consciousness, he could not fight off the disease, and left fatherless unborn Charlotte, the now-injured Catherine; Carl, 13; Chloe, 11; Cherie, 9; and Hugh, 5.

Trenary Elected Prexy of Allied Gardens Group

D. L. Trenary, of 5521 Clearside St., was elected president of the Allied Gardens Homeowners' Assn.

Other officers are Clifford Peterson, 22720 Crosshill St., vice-president; John Klug, 5708 Palms Verdes Blvd., secretary; Peter J. Kiefer, 5513 Sunnyside St., treasurer; Gilbert Reinhardt, 22702 Crosshill St., sergeant-at-arms; and Philip Baxter, 22629 Linda Dr.; James Mullins, 22635 Linda Dr.; and George Larkin, 22213 Redbean St., board of trustees.

The proposed constitution and by-laws of the group were temporarily accepted at the November meeting, held at the Seaside Elementary School. They will be read and discussed at the next meeting and a vote will be taken to accept them permanently.

Kiefer was appointed chairman of a committee to investigate the problems involved in getting street lights throughout Allied Gardens. William Clarke was appointed to head a drive for membership. The next meeting of the Association will be held Dec. 28 at Seaside School auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Students To See THS Variety Show Today

The Torrance High School Variety Show, "Blackouts on Review," featuring songs, skits and chorus girls, will be shown to students today and tomorrow and to the general public tomorrow night at 8:15 in the school auditorium.

Tickets for the show are on-sale today and tomorrow from 1 to 4 p.m. in front of McCown's Drug Store, and from 12 noon to 1 p.m. in front of the Bank of America. Tickets also can be obtained by calling Joan Leech; "All of Me" by Chorus girls Judi Reid, Connie Stout, Jan Desmond, Jan Brimley, Ella Mae McLeod, Betty Davis, Pat Rogan and Peggy Wood will open the show with a French sidewalk cafe as the setting for their top hat, white tie and cane dance.

Next on the program will be the song "Hi Lili, Hi Lo," sung by Terry Ackers. One of the featured acts of the show will be a takeoff on "Dragnet" by the school faculty.

Songs and singers include "You, You, You," by the Buchanan sisters, Sharon and Sandra; "Rumble, Rumble, Rumble," by Joan Leech; "All of Me" by Judi Judson; "You've Got Me Feelin' This Way," an original song and lyric by April Stevens, who will sing it herself; "Stormy Weather," by Pat Wingard; "Indian Love Call" by Barbara Northcutt; Ronnie Jansen and Diane Powers singing the duet "Make Believe," and "Purple Cow," by Dee Shriver.

Dances
Dancing will be Sylvia Balgud and Vivian De La Cruz, who will twirl to the tune of "Anna"; "Malaguena," by Sally Rudge-man; Tom Forella tapping to "I Know That You, Know," a pantomime dance to "Oh Johnny" by Alex Merola, Gerry Rusk and Beverly Oaks; "Dragnet" by Billy Alameda and Delores Patrosky; Barbara Heger and Janet Van Dyke dancing to "Istanbul," and Jan Stevens and Louie Broussard "Dancing in the Dark." Jan will also dance to "Bbb Tide."

Blonde to Plead In LA Tomorrow

Virginia Conway, blonde TV and screen actress, will enter a plea tomorrow in Dept. 40 of Superior Court of Los Angeles on a charge of assault with intent to murder her husband, Tom Conway, by running over him with her convertible.

Mrs. Conway was arraigned last Friday and a public defender, appointed to handle her case, asked for a continuance until tomorrow to decide whether to plead guilty or not guilty to the charges.

Witnesses said they saw Mrs. Conway bump her spouse down an embankment near Main St. and 20th St. on Oct. 29 and then drive down after him. The shapely blonde told police that she was just trying to hold her husband for the police because he had thrown rocks through the window of her car.

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