10,000,000 Gallon Concrete Reservoir Nearing Completion

STUDENT NABBED WITH $60,000 CACHE OF DOPE

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(Herald Photo)

IT'S ALL YOURS . . . Commander Harry Green of the Bert S. Crossland American Legion Post (center) offers his congratulations to the local Legion Post's two new leaders, Commander Gordon Arnold (left), and 1st Vice-Commander Bob Ernst following Tuesday night's election.

Gordon Arnold Named To Head Legion Post

Gordon Arnold, of 1424 Crenshaw Blvd., was elected Commander of the Bert S. Crossland Post of the American Legion here in the organization's annual elections Tuesday night.

Arnold, who is a foreman for the Torrance Municipal Water Dept., succeeds Harry Green, who had been the top local Legionnaire during the past year. Arnold moves up from first vice-commander.

Other top officers elected by the Legionnaires Tuesday included Bob Ernst, first vice-commander; Clark Morris, second vice-commander; Roland F. Grover, finance officer; Hazel "Coney" Bender, sergeant-at-arms; Vernon Coil, service officer; Clarence Youngken, historian; and William B. Dymond, assistant sergeant-at-arms.

Elected for the fifth successive time as chaplain of the post was C. J. "Paddy" Ryan.

Plans for installation of the new officers are being made for sometime later this month, Arnold said.

Special Budget Meeting Slated

A special budget meeting of the Torrance Board of Education will be held Thursday noon, July 16, it was announced yesterday by Board President John A. Shidler.

The budget session was called at the request of Superintendent J. H. Hull to enable him to get the final budget into the county by the deadling, July 17.

Torrance Queen Contest Opening Here Next Week

Pretty young maidens of this city will compete for the title of "Miss Torrance" beginning next week, William E. Bowen, president of Torrance Area Youth Bands, sponsors of the event, revealed yesterday.

Any single girl between the ages of 15½ and 30 who is a local resident, is eligible to enter the contest, he said. All candidates vying for the title and valuable prizes must have a sponsor, who will pay the $5 entry fee.

Final details of the event's staging now are being worked out by committees, Bowen continued. Tentative plans call for judging at the Civic Auditorium and a Coronation Ball to follow.

The new queen will be crowned at the ball by Miss Shirley White, Miss Torrance for 1952. The past winner, who received numerous prizes including an all-expenses-paid week-end air trip

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Four of Riviera Family Injured In Beach Crash

A young Hollywood Riviera mother whose husband, two children, and three other persons also were hurt in the crash, was still in the hospital yesterday, with doctors seeking to determine the extent of injuries she received in a midnight collision of three autos at Sepulveda Blvd., in Hermosa Beach Monday.

The 23-year-old woman, Mrs. Marjorie Morelock, 278 Calle de Madrid, was pinned under the steering wheel when firemen arrived at the scene of the wreck. Taken first to South Bay Emergency Hospital in a fire department ambulance, she was later transferred to St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica, suffering from cuts on the legs, arms, and face, and undetermined fractures.

Husband Released

Released from St. John's yesterday, were her husband, Dennis, 34, who suffered cuts on the nose and face and an injured knee, a three-year-old son, Kenneth, who received deep facial cuts around the nose and lips, and his brother, Michael, 4, who suffered shock.

Still hospitalized at Gardena following the accident is Alfred Matejcek, 56, 13007 Yukon Ave., Hawthorne, who was found pinned in the back seat of his car in a semi-conscious condition. Although suffering from head and neck injuries, his condition is

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Cement Shortage May Cause Delay

Contractors rushing to completion the new 10,000,000-gallon concrete reservoir to serve the City of Torrance cross their calloused and manly fingers this week hoping that they will be able to top off the huge storage basin before a predicted cement shortage hits within the next two months.

Fred B. Chadwick, who is supervising the huge project, located in the hills above Walteria for the Chadwick and Buchanan Construction Co., expressed a fear Monday that the contractors might be caught in the middle of cement shortage just about the, time they would be ready to pour the second half of the tank's roof.

The tank, measuring 177 feet wide by 337 feet long by 28 feet deep, has been completed and one half of the roof has been poured. Construction workers are removing the forms in preparation for pouring the east half of the basin's cap, which is supported by a portion of the 160 concrete interior pillars.

Plans Delayed

The contractors originally planned on a completion date somewhere near the first of August, but were delayed by last winter's heavy rains which dumped tons of water into the newly-excavated basin. Chadwick indicated the project was well on its way toward completion and that with the pouring of the roof and installation of miscellaneous access roads the project would be turned over to the city.

Already installed are the pumphouse, valves, and control units which will ultimately control the flow of water into a new 24-inch line, according to Angus McVicar, superintendent of the water department. McVicar said water department crews were flushing the new line on Monday and that it would be placed in service sometime this week. The recently-installed line will carry reservoir water along Crenshaw Blvd. to connect with existing lines at 203rd St. when the reservoir is completed.

Nearing completion also is a one-million-gallon steel storage tank at 174th St. and Yukon Ave. in North Torrance. Testing of the tank was in process this week. When the tests are completed the tank will be lined with bitumastic material, sterilized, and placed in service in about one month, McVicar states.

Dope Cache Find Puts Damper On College Career

An El Camino College student who told police he planned to raise enough money selling marijuana to put himself through Cal-Tech, was scheduled for a preliminary hearing today in Inglewood Municipal Court, on charges of possessing an alleged $60,000 cache of marijuana.

Arrested were Aristides D. Karditzas, 26, of 15733 Halldale Ave., and a friend, Arthur V. Wilson, 28, of Los Angeles. Sheriff's deputies found two orange crates and two burlap sacks filled with loose marijuana in Wilson's apartment. Its worth was estimated at $60,000 by officers.

Wilson boasted to deputies that he had 80 pounds of narcotics—"enough to bury you in," at his home. The pair was arrested after allegedly making a sale to a deputy sheriff in a parking lot at Western Ave. near Redondo Beach Blvd.

They were booked on suspicion of selling and possessing marijuana, and were held in county jail in lieu of $5000 bail.

(Herald Photo)

NEW LAW TEAM . . . A new law firm of Woolley and Woolley was in the offing this week as Mrs. Margaret Woolley, wife of Atty. Boris Woolley, was notified that she had successfully completed her examinations for admittance to the California bar. She will join her husband in law practice in Torrance, she said.

Hot Newsbreak

Heraldman at Scene of News, Says Break Wasn't Lucky One

By JACK O. BALDWIN
Editor, the Torrance Herald

Occasionally a newsman has the opportunity of being right on the scene when a news break occurs and usually he regards it as being a lucky break.

When a horse and rider vaulted a four-foot concrete wall last Saturday the hard way—head first, I was on the scene, but I hardly could regard the incident as a lucky break, I was the rider.

"Goldie," the Palomino stallion I was riding, headed for the grassy field of the corral

(Continued on Page 2)

Teenagers Face Hearing After Melee in Street

A bloody battle among five Torrance youths in Redondo Beach Saturday night was discovered and broken up by two off-duty Redondo policemen much to the relief of two of the battlers, who had been set upon and severely beaten by the other four, according to police records.

Scheduled to appear today in South Bay Municipal Court to be arraigned on battery charges were Rufus Jones, 19, of 1307½ W. 223rd St., and William J. Benson, 20, of 14625 S. Halldale, Gardena.

Victims of the attack were Michael Gurrola, 13, of 1540 W. 223rd St., and Roger Lee Hazher, 16, of 1645 W. 224th St.

Two others at the scene of the melee were Clyde Justice, 18, of 1318 Engracia Ave., and Charles Mescheder, 20, of 1642 W. 208th St. They were both released later by police.

Officers In Store

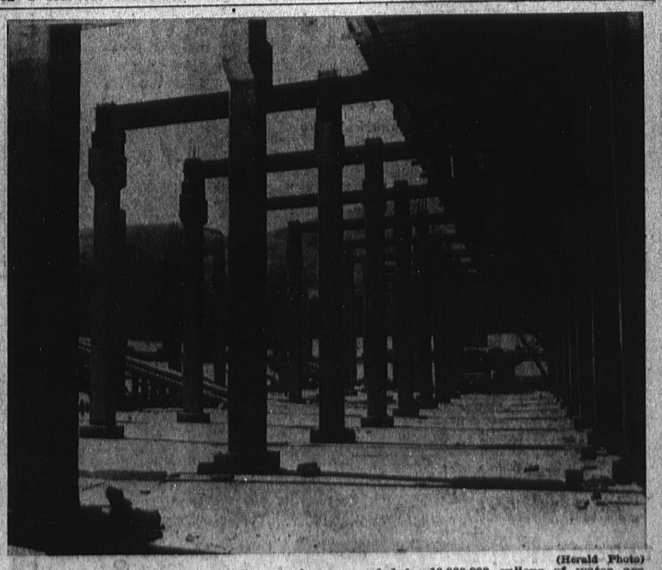
The off-duty officers said they were in a store near the intersection of Pacific Coast Hwy. and Torrance Blvd. where the altercation took place, when they saw the two victims hitchhiking. A car pulled up, and Jones and Justice got out, crossed to the two hitch-hikers, and fell upon them, knocking them to the ground. Benson had alighted by this time, police said, and he attacked young Gurrola from the rear, dropping him with a blow to the back of the head and then kicking him in the face and stomach.

Jones then began stomping his foot against Hazher's head, officers said. The off-duty policemen interfered at this point, stopped the fracas, and took the boys into custody. The victims were sent home with bloody noses and bruises, the officers said.

Jones and Benson were booked and later released on $250 bail. Stories as to how the battle started conflicted, police said. It apparently involved an exchange of obscenities, but it was not determined which side initiated the billingsgate.

(Herald Photo)

NEARING COMPLETION . . . Construction crews get ready to shift concrete forms from completed section of the roof on the city's new 10,000,000-gallon reservoir into position over open portion in preparation for capping the huge water storage basin. Job requiring tons of concrete may be delayed by a predicted cement shortage. When completed, the city will have spent $3,000,000 renovating its water supply system. The reservoir is the last of the major construction items which hydro engineers indicated the city needed to modernize its water system.



(Herald Photo)

FROM PILLAR TO POST . . . Soon to be surrounded by 10,000,000 gallons of water are 160 pillars supporting the roof over the city's new reservoir now nearing completion in the Palos Verdes hills south of Pacific Coast Hwy. near Crenshaw Blvd. Huge steel beams will be moved into open section at left to support forms while workmen pour concrete roof over new structure.