

(The following excerpts are taken from the Sunday, April 7, edition of The Torrance HERALD. The stories here represented include only a small part of those published Sunday, stories which included complete news, sports, and society coverage of Torrance events. To get the news on Sunday, too, call The HERALD circulation department at FA 8-4000 and ask to have your hometown paper delivered twice a week.)

**Weekender**

## Chief Honored At Gala Party

One of the city's most exclusive fraternities initiated its newest member here Friday night. Retiring Police Chief Willard H. Haslam became the third member of the retired police officers' club.

On hand to welcome their veteran colleague into the ranks of the exclusive fraternity were former Chief John H. Stroh and Sergeant G. S. "Bill" Evans, who preceded Haslam in retirement.

Also on hand were more than 250 other friends of Chief Haslam as he was toasted at a dinner meeting at the American Legion hall. The guests at the dinner included most of the off-duty officers of the department, members of the Torrance Police Reserve, Torrance Mounted Police, former police officers who now are members of the California Highway Patrol, Los Angeles police department, and the sheriff's office; and the city's official family, including all of the councilmen and top city officials.

### The Nude Caper

A completely naked man, who parked his car at Torrance Beach and made a beeline for his Rolling Hills home, was stopped after he walked through a picture window at 2900 Via Campesina, Palos Verdes Estates.

The man, a former airline pilot discharged last month after he reportedly showed signs of mental disturbance, was taken into custody by Torrance Officers Gene Erbetta and Don Hartel and Palos Verdes Officer Fred Tompkins.

The man apparently took off his clothes, left them in his parked car, and made his way through the Hollywood Riviera as surprised onlookers followed.

### Report Card Study

A 19-member committee began the study of whether seventh and eighth graders should receive letter grades Thursday at a meeting in the Torrance Board of Education chambers. Headed by Mrs. Margaret Denmark, curriculum specialist for the School District, the committee is composed of administrators, teachers, parents, and representatives of business organizations.

The committee will consider whether the present non-grade type of report cards used in elementary schools should be changed to the graded variety for seventh and eighth graders, so that youngsters will become accustomed to the grading system in high school.

### Park Plan Backed

The Torrance Planning Commission threw its support behind the proposal to put a huge county park and sports center in Torrance at its meeting Wednesday night.

### Texas Picnic Slated

A reunion for former residents of the Lone Star State will be held at the Texas Lone Star State Easter picnic on April 21 at Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles, according to Jerrell W. Babb, president. A program will begin at 1 p.m.

The park has been proposed for the recently annexed Victor Tract land west of Henrietta St., between Torrance and Del Amo Blvds. Commissioners discussed the possibility of de-annexation of the land, since the county might be reluctant to spend money on territory belonging to Torrance, it was indicated.

### Hunt Kidnap Team

A kidnap-robbery team who took a Lomitan into the Palos Verdes hills at gunpoint before robbing him of \$160 is being sought by Torrance and Southland police today.

Edgar McDaniel, 47, of 2104 Lomita Park Pl., told Torrance police that he had just cashed a payroll check at a market at 23747 Arlington Ave. Friday before noon when he was taken at gunpoint by two suspects he described as male Mexicans, 24 to 25 years of age.

### Youngsters Injured

Two Torrance youngsters were badly hurt in different accidents which occurred late Friday afternoon.

Five-year-old Toni Thompson, 1123 Greenhedge Ave., was treated for a broken collarbone at Harbor General Hospital after she was struck by the car of Violet Smead, 4236 Via Pinzon, Palos Verdes, near 212th and Normandie Ave.

Jeffrey Letterman, 2, received a possible skull fracture when he ran across the street in front of his home, 16816 Yukon Ave., and was struck by a car driven by Richard Wilkinson, 16927 Yukon Ave. He was reported in serious condition at Harbor Hospital.

### School Chief Ill

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of Torrance schools, was stricken with a heart attack late Friday night while attending a superintendents' meeting at Paramount. He was reported in critical condition yesterday at Torrance Memorial Hospital.

### Griddler Takes Post

Former All-Southern California halfback Kenny Swearingen, who led El Camino's football destiny through 1952 and 1953, will take over the backfield coaching duties under Warrior Headman Norm Verry next fall, it was announced yesterday by President Forrest G. Murdock.

Swearingen's appointment to the grid coaching staff follows his election as an instructor in physical education by the Board of Trustees at its last session. The popular ex-Redondo Beach athlete will assume the post vacated by Amby Schindler, who requested an assignment change which will see him devoting more time to the instruction program.

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