

17-Year-Old Held in Jail

A 17-year-old Torrance youth today is in custody of county juvenile authorities following his arrest on charges of stealing nearly \$800 from a local cafe where he was employed.

The youth was caught in the act Friday taking some of the restaurant's receipts. He reportedly admitted taking the money over an eight-month period.

He said he had taken money from employees' and patrons' purses, and tapped the till at the cafe.

Police Still Checking On Missing Cash

Local police still are investigating the theft of \$2800 in cash and \$3000 in checks from a firm at 501 S. Arlington Ave.

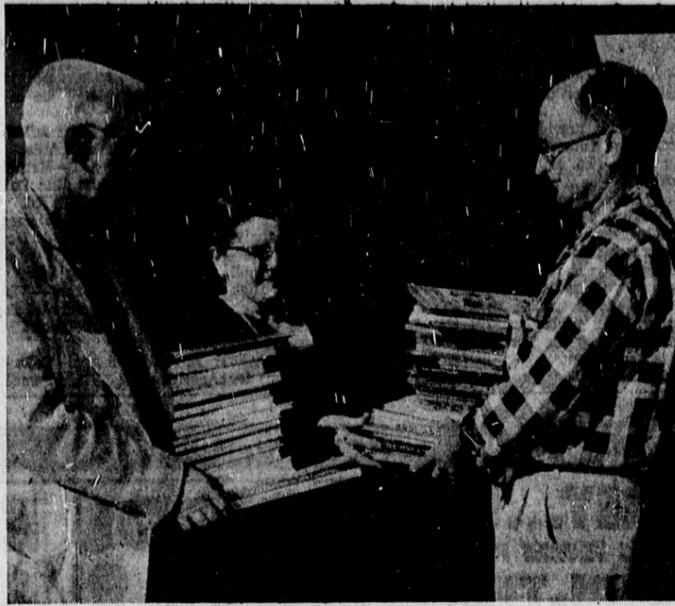
The money, receipts from Christmas sales, was placed beneath the counter after being counted and readied for delivery to a bank.

When the armored car arrived to transport the currency, Rex Green, manager, discovered the money bag was missing.

The money, taken from the safe a few minutes earlier, had reposed in the locked vault over the holiday.

Power Tools Missing
Power tools and instruments were taken from a tool shed at North High School, police revealed Monday.

A transit, worth \$600, was missing as well as two skill saws and a skill drill.



LIBRARY AIDED . . . John Strech (left), president of the WALTERIA Kiwanis Club, and Frank Hunter, secretary-treasurer, present a stack of books to Mrs. Margaret Dowd, librarian at the WALTERIA Library, as a club project. The books will be added to the selection at the library.



BRUCE JONES
Gets New Post

Bank Names Bruce Jones To New Job

A promotion for Bruce Jones to assistant manager at Bank of America's Torrance branch was announced yesterday by Harold G. Frenz, manager. Jones is the successor to John A. Tweedy, who is leaving the bank for another field of endeavor.

Jones is a 20-year man with Bank of America and was formerly operations officer at Beverly-Wilshire Branch, Beverly Hills, where he was in charge of personnel and interior operations.

He began his career as a night clerk at the bank's Los Angeles Clearing Office. After a series of promotions and three and one-half years of army duty in the European Theater during World War II, he became an officer of the statewide bank in 1946.

While climbing the promotion ladder he attended night school at American Institute of Banking, earning the standard certificate of the school and completed many graduate courses as well.

He is quartermaster of the VFW post at Manhattan Beach and a member of the bank's public speaking group, The Squires. He and his wife, Bernice, have a daughter, Marsha, 9, and a son, Robert, 6.

Southwest Park Meet

Residents of Southwest Park were urged to make "civic interest one of your New Year's resolutions" by attending the Southwest Park Civic Assn. meeting in Steele School at 8 p.m. next Tuesday.

City to Employ Asst. Building Superintendent

City Councilmen have approved the hiring of an assistant superintendent of building, contingent upon the legality of starting the man at the second salary step.

John J. McKinnon, presently employed by the county and working in the City of Lakewood, is expected to report for work here Jan. 10 at a monthly salary of \$702.

Meanwhile, City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier was requested to check the legality of the second step salary plan.

Company Has Explosion, Small Fire

Although the rupture of a gas pipeline Monday caused a loud explosion and fire, no one was injured and property damage at the Union Carbide and Chemicals plant, 3407 Del Amo Blvd., was minor, company officials said yesterday.

The pipeline was part of the plastics operations at the local plant. The fire was handled by the company's own firemen, although Torrance firemen stood by for about an hour. Officials said the mishap resulted from excess pressure, but that the fire occurred behind a safety barrier designed for such emergencies.

Two Hurt in Two Crashes

Two persons were treated by their own physicians following two accidents Monday.

Charlotte Ann Crosby, 18, of Inglewood, was taken to a private physician when her car and one driven by a 27-year-old sailor, Donald Earl Sifers of San Pedro, collided at Western Ave. and 220th St.

Frank Aubrey Allen, 49, of 420 Calle de Castellano, who just entered Pacific Coast Hwy. from the Torrance Municipal Airport, received minor injuries Monday when his car was struck by a vehicle driven by Eugene Chapman Paulson, 38, Paulson, with the U.S. Army at Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., was traveling west on Pacific Coast Hwy. as was Allen.

Prairie Ave. Project Set

The long-awaited Prairie Avenue Improvement project has received State approval and a contract has been awarded to the S. A. Cummings Contracting Corp.

Bids for the improvement of the street from 182nd to 174th Sts. were forwarded by the city council to the State for approval.

The Cummings firm was awarded the contract for the \$24,775.43 project.

Outboard Motors Taken

Two outboard motors were taken from a boat kept in the rear yard of Paul Wright's residence, 17029 Wilkie Ave.

Wright reported the theft of the motors, valued at \$1500, to local police Sunday.

Fire Sweeps Trailer Here Early Monday

A vacant trailer at 23701 S. Western Ave., was seriously damaged as flames swept through it early Monday morning.

Fire, of undetermined origin, started in one corner of the trailer, but was extinguished by a garden hose. Firemen cleaned up the mess. The trailer was owned by Herman Melton.

Firemen also answered a Monday call to plug a gas leak at the Meseaki Kanamoto home, 3708 Del Amo Blvd., after an unidentified driver ran off the road in heavy fog and smashed into the meter. The driver left the scene without leaving his name.

Laundries Must Keep Attendants on Duty

Automatic laundries will have to keep an attendant on duty all night, if they remain open on a 24-hour basis.

This was agreed upon by city councilmen Monday in answer to queries from laundry firms who wanted to install the automatic machines and not keep attendants on duty.

Walteria Sump Drain Specifications Set

Specifications for the Walteria Sump Drain project have been approved by the Torrance city council.

Bids will be received on Jan. 10, by the flood control district, on the project which is described by City Engineer Ronald Bishop as "the first step in draining Walteria Lake."

Petitions Object to Little League Park

A petition objecting to the use of city-owned property at Lee St. and Elmwood Dr. for Little League baseball has been referred to the planning commission.

City councilmen sent the petition, signed by 40 residents, back to the commission which is presently considering sites for Little League activities.

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Ladies' League Scheduled at Local Alley

A new Ladies Beginner's League is now being formed at the Torrance Bowl-O-Drome. The league play will get under way Thursday, Jan. 9, at 10 a.m. All those interested are urged to register immediately at the local lanes.

In the Torrance High School League, two girls are tied for season high games. G. Puncher and M. Tappan both have rolled neat 227s. D. Goodrow holds the high boys' game with a 249 score. Boys series currently is led by F. Landaver with his 634. Out in the lead for the girls is M. Iwata with 592.

Second division of the 19th District American Legion League, now in its 16th week, is led by the Wilmington Yanks, one game ahead of the Lomita Spoilers. High game honors are held by E. Blair with a tremendous 256 while D. Buckner has series high of 649.

Union Carbide's Women's League is having the pace set by the Taint E-Z team, which is leading the Strikers by only two games. High series of 629 goes to M. Clark with J. Rosenlof and J. Bell tied with 224 games each.

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SMALL FLOAT . . . This replica of Torrance's entry in the Rose Parade was made by a group of neighbors in the 3900 block on 176th St. out of construction paper, an old broom handle, old pillows, and plastic foam. "We want to show Torrance that this is a street to be proud of," said Mrs. Ruth Moore, 3913 W. 176th, at whose home the float is displayed. She said the neighbors plan to make a "Christmas Lane" of their area next year. (Herald Photo)

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