

# GEE FACING NEW BAIL CHARGES

## More Missing Bail Revealed

"This whole thing's a comedy of errors."  
That's the way 53-year-old former Torrance warrant service contractor Jack Gee explained his being back in Torrance jail Tuesday facing a second charge of embezzling public funds.

Gee's appearance at the local police station was short-lived, as a bail bondsman showed up to free him on a \$2000 bond.

The former warrant server already faces similar charges as the result of a grand jury indictment last year. Bail on these charges was \$2500.

### Awaiting Trial

Gee is awaiting trial in Los Angeles Superior Court March 5 on four charges arising from his alleged failure to turn in money he collected for warrants given him for service.

The new charge accuses him of failing to turn in \$263 collected for a warrant. The arrest warrant was made by Judge Otto B. Willett of South Bay Municipal Court.

Gee, who refused to pose for pictures at the local station, maintained his innocence, declaring that the "whole thing is a comedy of errors." He also blasted newspapers for not "printing his side of the story."

Arrested in his Beverly Hills apartment, Gee was taken into custody by Officer Jack Hahn.

### Refuses to Answer

Hahn, with the aid of Beverly Hills police, was forced to kick the door open when Gee refused to answer to the officers' demand to open the door. Gee later said he didn't hear the pounding because he was watching television, according to police.

For nearly 10 years Gee served out-of-town warrants for Torrance and other area cities on a commission basis. He was discharged early last year after his activities came under the investigation of the district attorney's office.

## Loranger to Give Awards

Car Dealer Paul Loranger will donate two two-year scholarships for \$150 to two graduates of Torrance high schools for training in the field of auto repair, servicing, sales, or engineering.

Recipients must plan to attend El Camino College and will be judged on the basis of scholarship, leadership, outside activities, and financial need. They will be chosen by representatives of the schools and of Paul's Chevrolet.

## School-Parent Cooperation Urged to Handle Discipline

Schools and parents should work together in disciplining and guiding children.

That was the consensus of a panel discussion held Monday at the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee meeting. Taking part in the discussion were two elementary principals, a high school principal, and two school district officials, with Dr. Max Appleby, curriculum consultant, acting as moderator.

The aim of the schools, Appleby said, is to build self-directing individuals. Schools try to study children in terms of the factors which cause behavior and to teach them the limits of acceptable behavior, he said.

### 10 Per Cent Trouble

North High School Principal Dale Harter said that less than 10 per cent of all students have to be sent to the office for disciplinary offenses and that about one-quarter of these take up most of the administrative time.

"We find that 90 per cent of

students with whom we have trouble come either from broken homes or homes in which both parents work," he said.

Harter said that high school discipline is based on the principle that everybody should have another chance and that the school tries to "help parents help students adjust."

### If Measures Fail

If all measures fail, he said, the student may be transferred to another school, put on a part-work, part-school schedule, or referred to the Special Service Division of the schools for special help.

Dr. Frederick Cyphert, curriculum consultant, declared that the schools try to avoid the "policeman" approach and "getting short-term compliance rather than long-term acceptance."

There is an attempt to use education as a preventative measure, Don Mullaney, Waller School principal, explained. Schools try to make what children learn an influence on the 18 hours when

they are not in school, he said, but "we can't do it alone."

**Action Is Reaction**  
"The action of a child is a reaction to something else," Mullaney said. "This problem we try to solve by cooperation."

"What we do is louder than what we say," said Carl Shaner, principal of Anza School, in pointing the need for a good example to be set for children. Dr. Warren Hamilton, director of special services, explained the functions of his office in helping students where other means have failed.

He urged parents not to take a child's side against the teacher in disciplinary cases, until the parent has checked with the school to see what caused the trouble.

Unfortunately, Dr. Appleby noted, in conclusion, parents who visit the schools most often are not those whose children get into trouble. Sometimes, he said, parents who should take an interest in their children are the hardest to get to the schools.

## Four Entered In Mayor Race

Activity around the city hall picked up this week with nominating papers for various city offices rising to 20. Deadline for all nominations is noon today.

As of closing time last evening, four had filed for the mayor's race, 11 for council, three for city clerk, and two for city treasurer.

Nominees for mayor now include Albert Isen, Nick Drale, Dearl Craft, and Walter G. Ryan. Ryan was a candidate for the city council two years ago, polling 455 votes out of approximately 7500 cast.

Council Candidates Seeking council seats are Richard B. Wilton, Thirvin Fleetwood, J. E. Thompson, Virgil Hancock, George Bradford, Roger P. Hogue, Muriel A. Reeves, George Vico, J. A. Beasley, Clifford Peterson, and the incumbent, Willys G. Blount.

Candidates for city treasurer include Incumbent Harriett V. Leech and Frank W. Hunter. Opposing veteran City Clerk A. H. Bartlett for that office will be Herma Tillim and Bernard H. Miller.

A dozen nominating petitions are still out and more

Thomas Abrams, president of the city's airport commission, filed nominating papers for the city council elections in April just at closing time last evening. Abrams makes the 12th candidate to file for the race.

A petition for nomination was issued to David Figueredo, member of the planning commission, late yesterday. Figueredo told the HERALD he would seek a council seat.

candidates may file today. All petitions must be in the hands of the city clerk by noon today.

Craft, who has thrown his hat in the mayor's race, is a leader for a Wilmington oil company. Ryan listed his occupation two years ago as a machinist when he sought election to the city council.

New council candidates filing this week included Reeves, who is a warehouseman for a Los Angeles liquor firm; Vico, public relations representative for Dominguez Water Co.; Beasley, Felker Manufacturing Co. employe; Peterson, attorney, and Blount, the incumbent. Blount is a sales engineer for Kirkhill Rubber Co. of Brea.

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PUBLICITY SHY . . . Jack Gee, former warrant server for Torrance, holds his hand up to thwart efforts of HERALD photographer, Gee, shown being led to a cell by Officer Bob Daly, was later released on bail. (Herald Photo)

## 'Poor Judgment' Blamed For Crash That Killed 3

The "poor judgment" of a pilot who recently received his pilot's license was blamed for the plane crash which snuffed out three lives and narrowly missed a Torrance home Sunday.

Ironically, one of the victims was the Rev. Kelly Ray

Meritt, 23, of Kearney, Neb., who was to officiate at the Medford, Ore., funeral of one of those killed in the recent Norwalk plane crash. The plane took off in dense fog early Sunday morning, with the victims apparently believing the funeral was Sunday. Actually, it was scheduled at 11 a.m., Monday.

### Judgment Blamed

Investigator Frank Allen of the Civil Aeronautics Administration blamed the pilot's judgment after talking to the lone survivor of the crash, Robert Dye, 30, Los Angeles.

"There was no power failure," Allen said, "and the pilot did not try to climb above the fog, but was flying by visual reference not more than 200 feet above the ground."

According to Allen, Dye said that a large cliff loomed up in front of the plane shortly after it took off from Torrance Municipal Airport, and the pilot, Lars Cromp, 25, San Pedro, banked to the left.

### Skids Into Field

The plane then crashed into a field of flowers south of Newton St. and skidded into the Fred Gerken yard at 3870 Flower St., narrowly missing Gerken, who picking flowers nearby. The plane's wing grazed the house, where Mrs. Gerken, an invalid, and her nurse, were.

In addition to Cromp and Rev. Meritt, Edmund Hughes, 60, San Pedro, also died in the crash, but Dye miraculously escaped. Gerken found him sitting on a wing of the plane, unable to talk.

Gerken drove a half-mile to the nearby Walteria Fire Station to report the tragedy. It was reported that the victims had intended to leave at 4 a.m., Sunday, but were delayed for four hours because of the fog, which was still extremely thick at the time they left.

### Ordained Minister

Rev. Meritt, on ordained minister in the Foursquare

Gospel Church, was scheduled to officiate at the funeral of E. R. Jennings, a Coast Guardsman killed in the Feb. 1, Norwalk plane crash. Jennings was Dye's uncle.

Rev. Meritt, his wife, and two children, were attending a church convention in Los Angeles and were staying in San Pedro with a business associate of Hughes and friend of Cromp's.

Cromp, the owner of two service stations, had only recently received his pilot's license.

The crash was the third in the area in recent months. Councilman Robert Jahn, himself a pilot, called for an amendment to the city's airport ordinance that would prevent planes from taking off from the local field during times of restricted visibility.

## ASKS RE-ELECTION . . .

Willys G. Blount, member of the city council since April 1950, will file nominating papers to seek his third term on the city's legislative body. A resident of Torrance since 1948, he lived for four years in north Torrance, and since 1952 at 1444 El Prado. "I think the governing policy of this city must be carried out by all its elected officials and not by the dictatorial whims of a small clique," Blount said when announcing his decision to seek a third term.

## Threats to Newspaper Freedom Outlined to State Publishers

Rising costs of production and a flood of legislation aimed at controlling freedom of information and advertising were predicted to members of the California Newspaper Publishers Assn. in convention at Coronado last week end.

Governor Goodwin J. Knight, who addressed the publishers and presented awards, was praised for signing into law the 66 bills opening local and state official bodies to the pub-

lic Rep. R. M. Brown of Modesto, author of the "Brown Act" which opens many legislative meetings to the public by law, was presented a plaque for his leadership in these bills.

Newspapers hope eventually to have similar laws extended to every other public official group.

More than 800 of the state's top newspaper representatives attended the week end conven-

tion—described as the largest in history.

Torrance HERALD publisher King Williams received an award as runner-up in the annual General Excellence competition for California nondaily newspapers. The Costa Mesa Globe-Herald received the top award.

Commenting on the two papers, the judges' statement read: "Both papers excellent for keeping up the home lick in the news. Mechanical 'excellence' and makeup hard to beat. Like your accent on cultural items. Originality and imagination in art 'out of this world.' Congratulate your photographers for us. Your hard-working ad men need three slaps on the back for all of which we say, 'well done!'"

The HERALD has entered the competition for the top California newspaper award twice in the past three years, winning first for 1955, and second in 1957.

"It's reassuring to know that the newspaper field's top experts feel you are doing a good job," Publisher Williams said after receiving the award from Governor Knight.



RECEIVES AWARD . . . Publisher King Williams accepts merit award from Governor Goodwin J. Knight at publishers' convention in Coronado over the week end. The HERALD was named runnerup in judging for the top award in "general excellence" among California's nondaily newspapers.

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## A Penny for your Thoughts

Despite threats from his wife, the HERALD's inquiring photographer posed this question:

"One professor proposed recently that in view of the increasing college classroom shortage, men should be given preference over women in admittance to college. This is based on the theory that the man is the bread winner and the woman does not need an education as badly. What do you think?"

Ray Von Der Heide, 2605 W. 190th St., restaurant owner:

"Definitely. Women take up a lot of room and then get married anyway. A man has to make money in the family for the rest of his life."

Mrs. James Lafferty, 428 Calle de Castellano, housewife:

"I disagree completely. In many cases, the woman is the breadwinner and some of the greatest scientists, educators, and all professional people are women. Education shouldn't be limited to one sex or the other."

Rev. Ray Anger, San Pedro, pastor, Church of Religious Science:

"Women have as much right in college as men. Their educational pursuits should be based on abilities, interests, and potentials rather than sex. We have too much regimentation in education, breaking down fundamental democratic principles on which the nation was founded. Women have qualities of leadership in all fields."

Mrs. C. L. Thompson, 4323 W. 179th St., housewife:

"I agree. We need to go to college more than women. Most women are preparing for marriage. They could go to junior colleges and leave more advanced schools to men."

Bill Simmons, 1660 W. 183rd St., chef:

"If there is a shortage of room men should have preference. A man needs an education nowadays, especially if he's in a profession. Lots of women go just to kill time or get married."

Mrs. H. V. Markham, 23317 Hawthorne Ave., school nurse:

"The answer is, more schools for all, allowing any segment of the population to be deprived of education. My family has three women with master's degrees and it would be a shame to deprive them of that."