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Torrance Herald

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45th Year—No. 86

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1959

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TORRANCE GIRL'S BODY FOUND

Four Die in Plane Crash

The bodies of a 23-year-old Torrance beauty and her three companions, missing since they vanished mysteriously more than five years ago, have been discovered on the slopes of Mt. Cucamonga in the San Gabriel mountains.

Sheriff's officers report the finding of whitened skeletons belonging to Florabel "Mickey" Kidwell, whose mother, Mrs. Wilfred Spoden lived at 1714 W. 234th St., at the time of the disappearance; Bobbie Gay, 19, former Narbonne High School beauty queen and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hadley Gay of Harbor City; Joan Belger, 22, and Pilot John A. White, 37, in whose plane the quartet were flying when they vanished into the rain of a stormy March night in 1954.

REPORTS AT THE time indicated the three girls and White were headed for Calexico where the pilot was to deliver spare parts to his brother-in-law who operated an ice-house near there.

Why the girls were making the trip was never determined. The quartet boarded White's plane at Lockheed Air Terminal and the pilot flew east, trying to rise above the storm.

HE WAS instructed to land at Ontario Airport because of the weather, but refused, officials said at the time of the disappearance.

Later, White asked for a radar fix from the March Air Force base but technicians reported they were unable to locate him.

"I'm lost and I'm icing up near Banning," White reported. It was his last message.

A Riverside hiker found the wreckage of White's plane last week end, and a search party reached the area Wednesday.



MYSTERY ENDS . . . The five-year mystery surrounding the disappearance of Florabel "Mickey" Kidwell and three companions on a flight to Calexico was solved this week when a hiker found the wreckage of their light plane on a mountainside east of Los Angeles. Miss Kidwell's mother lived here at the time of the disappearance.

College Paper Wins 12th All-American

National Newspaper Week assumed special significance for members of El Camino College Warhoop staff when the newspaper received notification that it had tabulated All-American honors for the 12th consecutive semester.

Only two other two-year colleges publications throughout the nation received the highest rating given by the Associated Collegiate Press, whose headquarters are located at the University of Minnesota.

The Collegian of Los Angeles City College was the recipient of the award for the second consecutive semester, while the Valley Star of Los Angeles Valley College took the honor for the 10th straight time. With the Warhoop, the publications were rated in the weekly classification of college publications.

OF THE WARWHOOB, Judge Duane Andrews said, "It is a pleasure to judge such an outstanding newspaper as

the 'Warhoop'—keep up the good work." He cited the editorial page features as "among the best I've seen."

Other areas of the publication which the ACP judge rated as superior included the creativity in coverage of feature and news material, editorial page makeup, and sports display.

AREAS RATED excellent were photography, typography, headline schedule, headline writing, inside news page, standing art work, front page, sports writing, sports coverage, features, news stories, and news sources.

Judging was focused upon 23 different publications. With a total of 3400 points required to achieve the All-American Award, the Warhoop netted 3540.

LAST SPRING the newspaper was named winner of the plaque awarded by the University of Southern California to the junior college publication in the Southland demonstrating the greatest all-round excellence.

Heading the winning staff was Gary Palmer. The former editor-in-chief, a Torrance resident, is now continuing his journalism major at San Jose State College. Assisting him as editors were Miss Verne Christofferson, Torrance, news; Miss Carolyn Perkio, Manhattan Beach, features; Dick White, Inglewood, sports, and Miss Linda Axenty, Redondo Beach, news.

REPORTERS WERE Marty Whiteman, Inglewood; Bill Corwin, Lawndale; Jim Davis, Gardena; Paul Irwin, Gardena; Miss Janice Mills, Torrance; Alfred Montoya, Torrance; K. Lyle O'Dell, Redondo Beach; Ralph Roberts, Hawthorne; Bruce Scott, Inglewood; Jack Simpson, Inglewood, and Larry Van Goethem, Hawthorne.

Miss Christofferson is editor-in-chief of the Warhoop this semester. Advisor of the publication for the past 12 semesters has been W. A. Kamrath.

A Penny for your Thoughts

"What do you think is the cause of most automobile accidents?" This question was asked five people in the Torrance area by the HERALD photographer. Their pictures and the answers they gave are recorded below.

Stanley Helman, real estate salesman:

"I would say that automobile accidents most cases, by a relessness. Drivers just do not pay proper attention to the job of driving a car and to the traffic and the high speed they travel."



Joan Hardin, sales clerk:

"Most of the accidents I have seen have been caused by speeding and people trying to get somewhere in too big a hurry. Yes, people going somewhere in a hurry and not giving anywhere special, cause most accidents."



Jerene Tussey, sales clerk:

"I just think it's carelessness on the part of drivers and not paying attention to what they are doing, and, of course, drunk driving. Lots of times accidents are caused by impatience and because drivers are nervous."



Bill Bonnie, butcher:

"I could use the old saw and say that accidents are caused because people rely on their horns and not their brakes, but seriously I think most of the trouble is the high speed modern cars are built to travel."



Bob Hunter, market clerk:

"I think most auto accidents are caused by the combination of high speed and carelessness. I think if there was some warning that traffic lights were turning red it would help out the accident rate a lot."



Lawrence Harvey Gets Board Post

The Aluminum Association of America Friday appointed Lawrence A. Harvey a member of the board of directors of the association to serve until 1962. Harvey is chairman of the board of Harvey Aluminum of Torrance.



BUYING FLOWERS . . . Herald columnist Ann Landers buys some freshly cut blooms from two flower vendors while visiting recently in Moscow. In the background is the Moscow railroad station. Miss Landers' 12-part series on the Russian people is being brought exclusively to the readers of this area by the Herald.

Ann Landers Says

Moscow's Finest Hotel May Collapse Tomorrow

(This is the second of a series of 12 articles by the author of America's most popular human relations column.)

By ANN LANDERS

The Ukraine Hotel in Moscow was a shock for which I was unprepared. It is the newest and swankest hotel in the Soviet Union. The Ukraine took four years to build, opened in 1957, and I wouldn't be surprised if it collapsed next week.

A Danish contractor put it this way: "Russians are graph-happy. Everything must go UP. Khrushchev has ordered a crash building program. They don't care how they

covered two square feet of wooden floor. I picked up many a sliver before I learned not to take a step without slippers. The floors were a prize example of poor workmanship. The pieces of wood didn't meet and they didn't match. There was a large crater by the door and I broke the heel of my shoe the very first day.

Under the glass top on the desk was a set of totally useless instructions. Everything

(Continued on Page 2)

three of whom do not speak a word of English. Most tourists pay in advance which eliminates the agony of trying to make yourself understood at check-out time.

Passports are surrendered at the registration desk when you check in. The system of returning these precious documents is unbelievable. Every day hundreds of passports are tossed on the counter and each guest must claim his own. Bored tourists have been known to spend hours amusing themselves by looking through passports and learning the name, age, occupation, address and birthmark of every guest in the hotel.

MY ACCOMODATIONS—for \$35 a day—included a room with bath, three meals a day in the hotel, a car and chauffeur and an interpreter. Laundry and dry cleaning is extra, but local phone calls (if you can get through) are on the house.

My room was the size of a standard room in a first class American hotel. The twin beds were covered with billious rayon spreads—the kind my mother used to throw over the porch furniture when she stored it in the attic. The beds are comfortable and the sheets are changed daily.

The room had one large window, the combination of which I never learned. Fortunately, there was a transom over the window which was open when I arrived, so I had fresh air at all times. I also had fresh rain. The lace curtains resembled those my grandmother brought over from Russia when she came to America 40 years ago.

A POSTAGE stamp of a rug

Quinn in New Post At Shell



PETER F. QUINN . . . Gets New Shell Post.

Peter F. Quinn has been named manager-treasurer of the Synthetic Rubber Division of Shell Chemical Corp. at Torrance, it was announced yesterday by J. P. Cunningham, general manager.

Quinn joined Shell Chemical Corp. in July, 1947, as a clerk in the Eastern marketing division in New York. He later became supervisor of stock accounting in San Francisco and was transferred to Houston in 1950 as supervisor of utility accounting.

He was transferred to head office general accounting as senior accountant in April, 1953. In 1954, he became chief accountant at Houston and two years later was made treasury manager of Agricultural Chemical Sales division in New York City.

Prior to taking the Torrance assignment, he was assistant manager, financial accounting, at Shell Chemical Corp.'s head office treasury department in New York, a position he had held since February, 1958.



TARTAR QUEEN FINALISTS . . . Fourteen of the finalists for Homecoming Queen at Torrance High are shown here before the election due next Wednesday. From the left are Lynne Hyde, Bev Orend, Sue Hammack, Carol Do-

naher, Sharon Ricci, Denise Hunter, Sheila Thornberry, Vickie Hippik, Donna Ritchie, Linda Williams, Sandy Hanni, Patsy Cockran, Carol Johnson, and Flora Watson. (Herald Photo)