

Drivers May Get Chance to Tell Story on All Traffic Citations

Better treatment for motorists in traffic court has been predicted by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn through a proposal to provide more information with traffic citations.

The plan would allow motorists to explain in writing circumstances which may have caused the violation, so the judge may consider them when he hears the plea.

Suggested by Judge Lawrence Scherb of the Culver City Municipal Court, the plan has been referred for study to the

Municipal Court Judges Assn., Hahn said.

IT IS AIMED at eliminating the need for repeated appearances on traffic violations by citizens and patrolmen.

"Many citizens feel they do not get an even break in traffic court," Hahn observed.

He said Judge Scherb's proposal may lead to a review and revision of traffic tickets issued by various jurisdictions.

"There is a strong feeling," Hahn said, "that not only is

more information needed to speed the administration of justice on traffic matters, but a uniform traffic citation for use by all jurisdictions is also a worthwhile goal."

JUDGE JOSEPH Sprinkle of Pasadena, chairman of the Municipal Court Judges Assn., has promised to give Scherb's proposal careful attention.

Hahn, chairman of Superior and Municipal Courts on the Board of Supervisors, has already endorsed Judge Scherb's

plan to allow both the patrolman and the motorist to explain as a part of the traffic ticket any circumstances they feel had a bearing on the alleged violation.

Such a procedure would greatly cut down the time to process traffic citations and eliminate many demands for trial on "not guilty" pleas.

"MANY PERSONS receiving traffic tickets plead not guilty mainly because they wish to explain the circumstances of

their case," Hahn said. "But when they enter the plea they must return to the courtroom at a later date for trial."

Hahn pointed out that if the judge hearing the original plea had brief statements of circumstances before him as part of the traffic ticket, he could, in many cases, make a decision on the spot during the motorist's first court appearance.

"THIS PLAN would not only save the time of the defendant, but also would make it un-

DREAM ON

About 20 per cent of a normal night's sleep is spent dreaming, a group of University of Chicago scientists have found. The time is divided into five or six dreams, the final one lasting as long as 45 minutes.

necessary for traffic officers to repeatedly leave their patrols to appear in court," Hahn said.

Judge Scherb proposes that both the citee and the officer receive copies of the statements, and points out that there is apparently no legal objection to such a procedure.

Trustees Elect Day New Board President

Foster A. Day, the South Bay representative on the El Camino College Board of Trustees, has been elected president for the coming year. Day was elected at a special organizational meeting of the board July 1.

Other officers elected included Dr. Wallace H. Fraser of Hawthorne, the new vice president, and Hilar C. Ashley of El Segundo, who will serve as secretary of the board.

RETIRING president of the

board is Seymour Rayer of Inglewood. He continues as a member of the board. The other board member is Jack N. Dabbs of Torrance.

Dr. Stuart E. Marsee is presi-



FOSTER A. DAY Heads ECC Trustees

dent of the college and superintendent of the El Camino Junior College district.

DAY attended Redondo Beach schools and is a graduate of the California College of Embalming. He is currently manager of the Pacific Coast Cemetery. A former member of the Redondo Beach school board, he has served that group as president for three terms.

The new board president is married and the father of three children. The family lives in Redondo Beach.

County Assists Schools

Several Los Angeles Schools in the Torrance area will be included in the county's program of providing assistance to offer area children recreation facilities after school hours and during vacation periods, according to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

Schools included are Carson Street School, 185 E. Carson St.; Del Amo School, 1825 E. 213th St.; and 223rd Street School.

Hahn also said contracts have been approved to provide recreation services for all schools in the Lawndale district.

Palos Verdes Subdivisions Get Approval

Regional planning commissioners this week approved two more subdivisions in the Palos Verdes area. Both projects are expected to start construction soon.

Community Savings and Loan Assn. will construct 10 single-family residences on the five-acre parcel located at Crest Road and Palos Verdes Drive East.

William Etchison Properties Co. was granted approval for subdivision of 34 unlimited residence lots at Hawthorne Boulevard and Highridge Road.

Established Jan. 1, 1914
Torrance Herald

Member of National Editorial Association, California Newspaper Publishers Assn., L.A. Suburban Newspapers, Inc., Verified Audit Circulation Represented Nationally by The Hearst Co.
Publication office and plant, 1619 Gramercy Ave., Torrance, Calif. Published Semi-Weekly, Thursday and Sunday by King Williams Press, Inc. Entered as second class matter January 30, 1914, at Post Office, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.
King Williams Glenn W. Pfeil Co-Publishers
Reid L. Bundy—Managing Editor
Darrell Westcott—Circulation Manager
Chas. R. Thomas—Mechanical Supt.
Adjudicated a legal newspaper by Superior Court, Los Angeles County, Adjudicated Decree No. 21870, March 30, 1927.
SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By Carrier, 50¢ a month. Mail subscriptions, \$12.00 a year. Circulation office FA 8-4000.

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