

# Board to Reopen Metal Classroom Issue

The news that the current controversy on the Torrance school board may be reopened and that the group may reverse its own decision on the "portable" classrooms for Victor School, was reported yesterday by board members.

Tentative decision to reopen the issue followed an explosive meeting ten days ago in which one member walked out in protest of a vote to purchase the metal buildings for the million-dollar Victor plant.

Member Bert Lynn, who felt that the district was following a "false economy" in utilizing the buildings, stalked from the room at 1:30 a.m. after the board voted 3-2 to use the less expensive classrooms.

"Difference in the cost of maintenance would more than offset the apparent saving of \$13,000," Lynn said.

## CHANGES VOTE

One of the three board members who first voted for the metal buildings said that he would change his vote when the issue was reopened.

"Additional information on comparative costs of the two types of buildings, information that was not made available to me at the time of the vote, has now come to my attention," he said.

Board members favoring the portable classrooms at the Dec. 18 voting were President William Han-

son, Albert Charles and Dr. Kurt Shery.

Board members oppose to the "crackerbox modern" construction were Bert Lynn and William Boswell.

Crowds of upset homeowners in the area served by the Victor School have indicated that they will attend next Tuesday night's school board meeting when the issue is scheduled to be reopened.

Another issue under study by the board and roundly opposed by the administration of the district is the curtailment or possible elimination of shop and homemaking courses for seventh and eighth grade classes.

An apparent majority of the board feels that the courses are a "waste of time" and that the topics should be taken up on the high school level.

## ECONOMY

Lynn and other members, who are dedicated to bringing a factor of economy to school district spending, are casting jaundiced glances at the \$17,000 spent annually for transporting students to these classes.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, sharply opposes this viewpoint.

"I don't think the community will buy this," he said. "I don't want you taking this away from my boy."

LATEST TORRANCE POPULATION

# 108,506

October 1, 1961, Estimate



ACTION WANT-AD \$ CALL DA 5-1515

# TORRANCE PRESS

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Classified \_\_\_\_\_ 8B-12B  
 Darlene Cope \_\_\_\_\_ 10A  
 Sports \_\_\_\_\_ 10A  
 Women \_\_\_\_\_ 1B-2B  
 Editorial Page \_\_\_\_\_ 4A  
 Church News \_\_\_\_\_ 2B

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# STARVED BABY DIES

FIELD EXECUTIVE . . .

## Torrance Man to Head Area Scouting Council

Richard Carter, 23, of 1023 Portola Ave., Torrance, has been named new field executive in Harbor District of the Los Angeles Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

He attended Newport Harbor Union High School and Orange Coast College, majoring in business and winning letters in swimming.

Carter is also a graduate of the National Training School for Boy Scout Executives in Mendham, N. J.

Carter will be assigned to advise the training, camping and advancement committees in Harbor District. He will work with District Executive J. R. (Dick) Loquvam, 4744 Reese Rd., Torrance, and Assistant District Executive Roger Pelz, 2439 Denison, San Pedro.

Harbor District encompasses the communities of San Pedro, Torrance, Harbor City, Wilmington, Gardena and Dominguez.

Carter is a member of the Torrance First Methodist Church. He and his wife, Lynne, have a six-month-old son, Daniel.

Carter was a Cub Scout, Boy Scout and Explorer and was chosen for membership in Order of the Arrow, national honor camping society associated with the Boy Scouts of America. Later he served as assistant scoutmaster and served 18 months in the Air Force.

He is a musical comedy fan and appeared in musicals while in college and the Air Force.

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CHRISTMAS GIFT — First baby born on Christmas day was clocked in at 7:57 a.m. by Little Company of Mary Hospital physicians. A little girl, she weighed six pounds, two ounces at birth, and was born to Mr. and Mrs. John B. Laster, of San Pedro.

## Father Shoots Mother of Two, Then Turns Gun on Himself as Reconciliation Fails

The father of two Torrance area youngsters fatally wounded his wife and then

killed himself Christmas day as the children played with their new toys in an adjoining room.

Bodies of William C. Arps, 24, and his wife Francine, 23, were found in the bathroom of her mother's home, 14928 Burin Ave. by sheriff's deputies. Children, Sandra, 6, and William, Jr., 4, were in the next room playing.

Investigators said that the Arps had separated two months ago and that the father had called to effect a reconciliation. When the two quarreled she ordered Arps to leave. He returned later with a pistol, chased a friend of the wife's, Richard Price, 24, from the home, then shot his wife and himself.

Physicians said that the

body of the child showed bruises and marks possibly caused by beatings. They said that the boy only weighed 16 pounds at the time of his death.

Torrance detectives said that the youngster was taken to the hospital two year ago suffering from malnutrition. At that time physicians "managed to build up the youngster and he was returned to the custody of his parents. Detectives are also investigating the possibility that the boy has been confined to his crib for a long period of time.

Asked if he didn't know that the boy was ill, the father said, noncommittally, "well, we knew that he had the flu."

Asked how long the boy had suffered from the disease he said, "About two years!"

Father of the family said that he had been out of work for several months and didn't take the child to the hospital because he didn't "want to accept charity."

Asked if he didn't know that the boy was ill, the father said, noncommittally, "well, we knew that he had the flu."

Asked how long the boy had suffered from the disease he said, "About two years!"

## Murder Charge Filed Against Parents of Dead Torrance Boy

A four-year old Torrance boy died Christmas morning and shocked physicians at Harbor General Hospital diagnosed his ailment as . . . malnutrition!

Michael William Bishop was taken to the hospital after his father, an unemployed construction worker, called Torrance police and reported that he thought the boy was dead.

The youngster was reported dead on arrival at the hospital.

Parents, Claude W. Bishop, 42, of 1608 Cabrillo, and his wife, Marjorie, 39, a waitress in a downtown Torrance restaurant, were taken into custody and booked on murder and felony child neglect charges.

OTHERS OK  
 Four other children of the family, Barbara, 11, Rodney, 8, Mark, 5, and Darlene, 2, were turned over to county juvenile authorities after a thorough checkup by physicians, and were taken to Juvenile Hall.

A 17-year old married daughter of the couple, Mrs. Katherine Douglas, told officers that the couple habitually mistreated the boy.

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RICHARD CARTER  
 . . . Field Exec

## Former Employee Of City Dies

Alvin T. Schriver, 44, of 20105 Talisman Ave., a former employee of the city of Torrance, died Monday in Harbor General Hospital.

A former credit manager of the Torrance City Employees Credit Union, Schriver was fatally injured when the car he was driving struck a truck Wednesday near Dominguez. He was the father of two children.



READY FOR DEDICATION—Official dedication of the new control tower at Torrance Municipal Airport has been scheduled for Jan. 4, it was reported last week by airport officials. Last minute work includes installation of safety features in the tower plus the latest in electronic gear. Cost of the tower was borne jointly by the city of Torrance and the federal government.



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FIRST PONTIAC AGENCY—Torrance's first Pontiac agency held its official groundbreaking last week with prominent local dignitaries and public officials participating. Scott Robinson agency will be located at 20328 Hawthorne Blvd. Above, artist's rendition of the beautiful new automotive center shows sumptuous buildings and expansive grounds planned. Bert Scott is the contractor, and Jack Eardley, of Eardley and Meeks, is the architect.