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Rotary Boss Greets Chief Kiwanian



Kiwanis International President S. Trafford Taylor of Winnipeg, right, blushed on arrival in San Francisco for the Kiwanis convention this week when he was greeted with the continental kiss shown above planted on his cheek by Maurice Deperrey, left, retiring president of Rotary International.

Harry Bell Explains Boys' State Session; Now at Sacramento

Representing "the First 500" American Legion Post No. 524 of Los Angeles, Harry A. Bell, who graduated from Torrance high school last week, is now participating in the 10-day session of the California Boys' State at Sacramento. Young Bell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carleton B. Bell of 1544 Marcelina, is having his expenses paid by the Los Angeles Legion post.

A postcard to his parents today reported that the Torrance youth has been named chairman of the "Southern California caucus," which includes all representatives from Santa Barbara south. He was elected chairman of the "Whig" party, composed of 235 boys, and in the election of state officers was chosen controller.

Before he left for the state capital, the young man wrote the following explanation of the Boys' State at the request of The Herald:

"I have been asked the question: 'What is Boys' State?' so many times that I believe, in fairness to those who ask and to the American Legion, that a comprehensive answer to it should be given.

For Enlightened Citizenship

One of the major activities of the National organization of the American Legion is Americanism—and the most potent activity on their Americanism program is Boys' State.

While a student, John Adams wrote: "Get distinct ideas of law, right, wrong, justice. Aim at an exact knowledge of the nature, ends and means of government." Subsequent experience has shown that good government depends upon an enlightened citizenship. That kind of a citizen must have a fundamental understanding of the basic government of his community, state and nation. Therefore the Legion has undertaken to work for a keener interest in, and knowledge of, government among boys of high school junior and senior ages.

In speaking of Boys' State the National Chairman of the Legion's Americanism Commission says: "It is designed to awaken in the leaders among the youth of our nation a desire to study the practical operation of our government."

Steel-Toed Shoe Saves Oilman's Foot In Mishap

If William Scott, 23-year-old oil-worker, had been wearing ordinary type workshoes last Saturday afternoon it is quite probable he would have lost his left foot.

But Scott, who lives in Long Beach, was wearing a pair of steel-toed shoes and when his foot was accidentally caught in the cogs of the rotary wheel on the Charleston oil company's No. 1 well at Pennsylvania and Sepulveda, the safety shoe saved his foot.

Although the flesh was badly cut and mangled, no bones were broken and he is not expected to suffer an impairment of his walking, according to the attending physician. Scott was rushed to Torrance Memorial hospital in Stone and Myers' ambulance.

The steel plate in his shoe slowed down the machinery and enabled him to jerk loose before Scott's foot was amputated. Steel-toed shoes are standard equipment for many industrial workers and they have prevented numerous foot injuries since they have been introduced.

Nine Candidates in 17th District Congress Race

Nine candidates, five of them Democrats, are in the race for the office of representative in Congress from the 17th district to succeed the late Charles J. Cadden, according to the official list of nominations on file today in the office of W. M. Kerr, county registrar of voters.

Mrs. Clara N. Cadden, San Pedro, widow of the late Congressman, is one of the candidates seeking the Democratic nomination. The others are:

James J. Boyle, Los Angeles; Dr. Charles W. McQuarrie, Gardena; Lee E. Geyer, Gardena; and Clifton A. Hix, San Pedro attorney.

Two candidates, one of them Hix, are seeking the Republican nomination. The other is H. Lee Monroe of Long Beach.

Lomita Assured Place

Townsendites have a candidate in Fred C. Wagner, Los Angeles, who resides in the northern end of the district. Progressives have a candidate in Robert O. Bates, Los Angeles, who does not reside in the district.

In the 68th assembly district, five candidates, four of them Democrats, are in the field. They are James J. O'Toole, 1225 Madrid avenue, Torrance; John T. Kewell, San Pedro; Fred Heaves, San Pedro; and Arthur E. Genter, also of San Pedro.

The only candidate seeking the Republican nomination is Charles M. Smith, of 24347 Lucile avenue, Long Beach. He is assured of a place on the November ballot because he is unopposed in the G. O. P. primary.

Building Total Is \$2,280,637 at Mid-Year

New construction during the first half of 1938 ending today has totaled \$2,280,637 as compared with \$319,920 for the same period of 1937 and \$1,066,067 for the whole of the preceding year.

This month's building permit total is \$119,415 as against 1937's total of \$16,885.

Nineteen permits were issued for new oil derricks in the South Torrance field this month and 53 new derricks have been constructed in that area since the first of the year. Each of these is valued at \$5,000, including equipment.

This Week's Permits

New building permits issued during the past week totaled \$41,100 and included seven new oil derricks. These are being erected by: Ivar Larson, Long Beach, at 2262 231st; Jones-Long company, Los Angeles, at 2201 235th; Packard Petroleum company, No. 3, Long Beach, at 2438 233rd; Lomita Drilling company, Long Beach, at 2439 233rd; Texas company, Los Angeles (Wilson No. 12), a steel derrick at 2423 230th; Cal Oak Oil company, Los Angeles, 2342 233rd, and the O. M. Oil company, Los Angeles, at 2266 233rd.

The Texas company is building a 22 by 30-foot frame house and garage at 24252 Los Codona, Welteria, \$1,600. Imako Aoki is building a 24 by 24 frame house at 3601 Lomita boulevard, \$500, and J. R. Vandegriff is building a 10 by 28-foot garage at 1007 Arlington, for \$200.

Tartar Grad New Rookie 'Cop' on City Police Force

At 11 o'clock tomorrow night a new rookie "cop" will march out of the police station to begin patrol duties. He is Willard R. Barnett, 25-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Barnett of 2007 Andree.

Officer Barnett was appointed to the force this week and he was assigned to the night patrol today by Director of Public Safety John H. Stroh. He has lived in Torrance for the past 10 years and graduated from the local high school with the class of 1934.

Until his appointment, Barnett had been employed at the Columbia Steel plant in the foundry chipping and cleaning room. He is single and lives with his parents.

G. P. to Build \$30,000 Office at Local Plant

Detailed drawings for the first unit of an administration group that is to be erected for the General Petroleum Corporation at its huge Torrance plant are being completed this week by a Los Angeles architect, Henry C. Newton.

Estimated cost of the first unit was given as \$30,000. A large office building is planned for the site at a later date, it was stated at the company's offices this week.

The building now planned is to be one story, to house offices and control stations. Construction will be reinforced concrete, with concrete roof slab, wood block floors, and an air conditioning system.

Equipment is not figured in the estimated cost of \$30,000. The building will contain about 3,000 square feet of floor space.

SRA ASKS CITY TO SUPPLY WATER FOR 80-ACRE GARDEN

Requesting free water from the city to irrigate an 80-acre community garden project located behind the Columbia Steel plant, Ernest S. Grayson, land and water supervisor for the State Relief Administration, told the city council Tuesday that the SRA plans to put 400 men to work on the acreage by July 15.

The city furnished the water for a similar garden project covering a smaller acreage several years ago and councilmen recalled that they received many complaints then that Torrance men were unable to find work in the garden.

Grayson said the new project would employ Class B men—those incapable of any other kind of work, pay them about \$50 a month to establish a monthly payroll totaling \$20,000. He said the men would thus be taken off county relief, that the project has been approved by the SRA and passed on by Federal relief authorities also no definite allocation of Federal funds has yet been made.

Retention of the 1937-38 city levies was approved by the city council Tuesday night when the municipal budget was given its final okay.

The city cost sheet provides for a total income during the coming fiscal year of \$213,010 of which tax revenues will provide \$163,004. Estimated disbursements were fixed at \$179,010 which leaves ample funds for any emergencies during the year. Last year's budget provided for an income of \$173,173 and expenses of \$163,785.

Tax Levies Compared

A comparison of the tax rates for 1938-39 with the preceding year shows several changes in the itemized levies. This year the general fund tax will be 86 cents per \$100 as against 82 cents last year; the advertising levy remains the same—10 cents; a new fund for "general promotion" will be set up for disbursements of the sum realized from a one-cent tax.

Bond interest and redemption funds for the 1922 and 1935 issues will be raised from an eight-cent levy as compared to 12 cents last year and the library tax has been reduced from 10 cents to five cents.

Approval of the Torrance Municipal Water department's budget for 1938-39, submitted by Superintendent William H. Stanger, was voted by the city council Tuesday night. This estimates revenue at \$14,194 for the coming year with expenses totalling \$30,720. Included in the expense items is one for a new pick-up truck to replace a coupe now in use and \$16,920 for interest on the water district bonds—the principal being paid out of city taxes.

County to Curtail Extending Relief

County aid will be refused to relatives in other sections of the state or other states who are able and willing to support them, it was decided this week by county officials.

At noon the community picnic lunch hour will begin in the cool, shady pavilions at the park. No food will be furnished but the park picnic facilities of water, fuel and tables will be available to those who bring their own lunches.

Next event on the program will be a baseball game between the Torrance-Lomita Merchants and a team in the Greater Southern California league. This will be free and will be played at the city park diamond.

Offices of Police and Fire Chiefs Vacated; Council Puts Stroh Head of Both

Inquest Blames Unknown Driver for Two Deaths

Two cars speeding north on Arlington avenue Monday night about 8:45 o'clock, one in the rear, containing four young men, is about to overtake the other . . . at 231st street an old sedan shoots out of the intersection from the east and, without being touched by either machine, passes between them . . . the 22-year-old driver of the rear car swerves his Pontiac sedan sharply to the right to avoid collision . . . his machine skids on the soft shoulder, dives to the pavement again, totters and then rolls over and over and over . . .

The boyish driver dies instantly from a fractured skull. He is Fred V. Rice, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rice of 223 North Irena, Redondo Beach. At 8:30 the following morning Jack Wassley, 19, of 825 West 56th street, Los Angeles, succumbs from a basal skull fracture in Torrance Memorial hospital.

Unknown Driver at Fault

Two other young men, Nathan Levy, 20, of Los Angeles, and Lomir Nykodym, 22, of the Lomita hotel, survive the accident. They suffer cuts, bruises and from shock but no bones are broken. Nykodym was released from the hospital yesterday morning and Levy is present to testify at the coroner's inquest yesterday afternoon, having been allowed to go home Tuesday.

At the inquest four witnesses are examined by Deputy Coroner Arthur Kane and the jury decides the death of the two young men is "accidental and due to the negligence of the unidentified car." The juryman are: Wallace Gilbert, Fred Tiffany, Har-

(Continued on Page 2-A)

Steele Re-Elected S.W.O.C. Head

Ninety members of the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee, a C.I.O. affiliate, local lodge No. 1444 attending the election meeting last Sunday morning in the Moose hall on Craven avenue, re-affirmed their faith in Carl D. Steele of 1320 Cota avenue by re-electing him president.

Other officers chosen in the second election of the lodge's history were: Quincy Phipps, vice-president; Linton Cosby, recording secretary; W. W. Smith, financial secretary; K. C. Beight, treasurer; Joe Cipres, guide; Raymond Perez, guard.

Trustees elected were Harry Minor, Neil McConlogue and June Gaillyer. W. J. Gouker was named journal agent and the grievance committee for the next term will be composed of Fred Fleet, representing the sheet mill department; McConlogue, open hearth, and J. Hanks, rolling mill.

Installation of officers is set for Saturday morning, July 16. The lodge now has between 700 and 800 members, according to President Steele. Twenty-five members were reinstated last Sunday, he said.

CALDER AND STEVENSON DEMOTED IN 'SHAKEUP'

Elimination of the offices of fire chief and police chief and combination of these two municipal departments under the one head of Director of Public Safety was authorized yesterday afternoon by the Torrance city council following a joint meeting with the members of the Civil Service board.

PROMOTED



JOHN H. STROH . . . Director in 14 years

During the 14 years John H. Stroh has been a member of the Torrance police department he has made an enviable record. He came here from Loveland, Colorado, where he had lived most of his boyhood and youth, in 1924 and his first "last job" was running a roller for the street department under Superintendent William Gascoigne.

Today, as Acting Director of Public Safety in charge of the city police and fire departments, Stroh has the confidence of these vital municipal units, the city council and of all residents who have come to appreciate his ability as a police officer and executive.

Stanger Made Him Sergeant

He is president of the Peace Officers' Civil Service Association of California which is holding its first local dinner-meeting in the Civic Auditorium tonight. He is also serving his third term as president of the Torrance Pistol club, is a director of the California Academy of Criminal Science, is a past master of the local A. O. U. W. lodge, and past president of the original Men's Bible class of the Central Evangelical church.

Stroh remained with the street department until June, 1924, and then went to work in the Pacific Electric shops here. On Sept. 5, 1924, he was appointed to the police department as a patrolman. Mayor William H. Stanger appointed him sergeant in 1934.

Having received a high grade from the Torrance Civil Service commission in a competitive examination for police captain, Stroh was advanced to that rank four years ago.

He is married and has a daughter, Lucille, who graduated from Torrance high school and is now a governess in a San Marino home, and a son, Jay R. Stroh, eight years old, who is in the third grade at the Torrance Elementary school.

Realignment of P.V. Road Held Too Expensive

Realignment of the extension of Hawthorne avenue up into the Palos Verdes Estates is "nearly impossible without unwarranted expense," according to Acting City Engineer Leonard Young. He told the city council Tuesday night that to lower the present steep grade would "throw the road into a gully and this would cost considerable to fill."

The portion of the road that lies in Torrance territory could be resurfaced for about \$1,000, Young estimated. The council took no action on the realignment proposal, which was made two weeks ago by Oscar Willett, of Hollywood Riviera.

John H. Stroh, who has been captain of the police force since 1934, was appointed acting director of public safety in charge of both the police and fire departments. Stroh will take a six-months' leave of absence from his duties as captain under civil service and, if the new plans prove satisfactory after the six months' trial, his appointment will be made permanent, according to Mayor William H. Tolson.

To Increase Efficiency

Merging the management of the two public safety departments under one head was done to increase efficiency and eliminate the necessity of adding three additional men to the fire department in order to meet hour-limit requirements of the state law, Mayor Tolson explained.

Police Chief G. M. Calder was reduced to the rank and salary of police captain and Fire Chief A. D. "Ollie" Stevenson was reduced to the rank and salary of captain. Stroh, as acting director of public safety will be paid \$225 per month, an increase of \$45 per month over his present salary as "police captain."

"We feel that John Stroh is thoroughly familiar with the workings of both the police and fire departments and that he is the right age and possesses the right personality, training, and knowledge to do the work with expediency and good judgment," Tolson declared.

Increases Avoided

Rulings of the State Civil Service commission require that vacation periods of 15 days a year be given each paid member of a municipal fire department and in addition that absences from active duty of four working shifts per month be given all paid members of the fire department. To comply with these provisions it would be necessary for the city of Torrance to add three paid members to its fire department force, according to the mayor.

However, by eliminating the position of fire chief and putting the Walteria fire substation on a volunteer basis, the city has avoided adding any new men to its fire department. This change at the Walteria substation, however, will not affect the fire insurance rate at Walteria, according to assurances given city officials by the board of fire underwriters.

CALDER PLEDGES STROH SUPPORT

"I am happy about the new arrangement of the police department as I should like to be relieved of the more active work as chief," said former Chief G. M. Calder following the city council's action in naming him police captain yesterday.

"My long experience in police work should enable me to be more valuable as a desk man and I pledge my loyal support to John Stroh who now heads the department. He has my hearty good wishes for success in his new position and I am confident he will do credit to himself and the city," Calder added.

STEVENSON SAYS HE IS SATISFIED

"I appreciate the position of the city council in not wanting to add the expense of extra men to the fire department, and I am satisfied with my new position," said former Fire Chief A. D. "Ollie" Stevenson yesterday.

"As chief of the department I was on almost constant duty with little opportunity to enjoy the care-free leisure most people have from their work. Under the revised plan I will have more regular time off duty the same as other members of the department," Stevenson commented with a smile of anticipation.