

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1951

Thirteen

BY JACK O. BALDWIN  
Managing Editor

A column about beautiful women and other local problems.

August 6, 1951.

Dear J. O. B.:  
How wrong can you be? I refer, of course, to an opinion you expressed in last week's column in regards to your claim that for a town the size of Torrance that it has fewer beautiful women for its 18.8 square miles than any other city in the U. S. This town has 18.88 square miles.

Sincerely,  
Carl Pagac

August 2, 1951.

Baldwin:  
You're crazy!  
Your's truly,  
Dorothy Whiting



DOROTHY WHITING

August 3, 1951

Dear Ex-Boss:  
... your column last week. You're right!  
Gergo Whiting  
It would appear that the Whiting household is a house divided.

August 2, 1951.

Dear Mr. Baldwin:  
Just read your "No-Beautiful-Women" column.  
We have high grade and chemically pure cleaning solvent. Ideal for removing tar and feathers.  
Dave Figueroa  
Shell Service Station

August 2, 1951.

Dear Mr. J. O. Baldwin  
You are eating out tonight!  
Sincerely,  
Mrs. J. O. Baldwin

August 6, 1951

Dear Jack Baldwin  
After reading your column about the difficulties you have had in finding beautiful women in Torrance I am convinced you should visit my office—for two reasons!  
First, you need glasses.  
Second, to see my new office girl, Laura Lewis.

Dr. Alden Smith  
Optometrist

August 4, 1951

Baldwin:  
Hey, bud! Making a statement like no beautiful women here is what causes a man's hair to get thin on top.  
ANGUS McVICAR  
Well, "Mac" as Mark McVaine says: "Who wants fat hair?"

## Blackface Production To Benefit YWCA Here

In their most ambitious theatrical attempt since before the war, the Junior and Senior Woman's Clubs of Torrance are planning an old fashioned Mississippi River Showboat minstrel and variety show featuring local talent.

The show, planned to have a cast of more than 100 persons, will be staged for the benefit of the local YWCA.

The production will be professionally directed and will be footlighted for a three-day run starting on October 11 to the 13th. All performances will be staged in the Torrance High School Auditorium.

"Right now," says Mrs. Emma Roberts, "We are in search of talent—lots of it. Anyone with a desire or the ability to take part in the production is urged to contact any member of the two sponsoring organizations or me personally at Torrance 806."

To serve as "straight man" for the minstrel half of the two-act production will be John McCall, local attorney. To appear in the show too is the 30-voice chorus of the local S.P.E.B.S.S.A. (barbershop quartets.)

Money for the YWCA will be



FOOTLIGHTS BECKON . . . John McCall, snowcapped local attorney, will desert the bar for three nights in October while he performs as "straight-man" in a minstrel show to be staged for the benefit of the local YWCA.

## Baby Arrives as Couple Speed to Local Hospital

The Kimberlys lost a race with the stork Saturday evening as Mrs. Kimberly gave birth to a baby boy in the rear seat of their auto as they sped to the Torrance Memorial Hospital.

The couple, Mr. and Mrs. Kimberly of 18512 South Western avenue, were dashing from their home when the impatient tot made his appearance. At the hospital Dr. Ralph McNeil, of the Acacia Medical Center put a "doing fine" on both mother and child. The baby, the Kimberly's second, weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces.

The father is an employee of the Southern California Edison Company.

## County Health Officer Retires After 25 Years

A quarter of a century of public health service will end Sept. 1, when Dr. Henry C. Smiley, head of the Torrance and Inglewood Health Districts for the county retires from public service.

Dr. Smiley, a resident of the Riviera section of Torrance, 152 Camino de Las Colinas, was honored at a banquet held to pay tribute to him and another county health officer, Dr. Eugene F. Fontaine of the East Los Angeles Health District.

Gifts from staff members were presented to the retiring health officers by Dr. Roy O. Gilbert, county health officer, who told of the pioneer work they had done in the field of public health.

## Jaycees Plan Get-Together

A completely informal "Juke Box Jamboree" will be staged at the Riviera Beach Club on Friday night, August 10, by members of the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce, according to Jim Wood, publicity chairman.

The affair is a get-acquainted dance for all members and prospective members.

Swimming in the club's pool will be available, Wood said. Price is 75 cents with the dancing to start at 8 p.m.

## City Treasurer Unhurt in Crash

Escaping injury in an accident at Sepulveda boulevard and Figueroa street last Saturday was Mrs. Margaret Fordice, Torrance City Treasurer.

She returned to her home at 2027½ Andrea avenue by Torrance Police after her car was rendered inoperable by the crash.

Her soldier husband Kenneth, 20, was booked at the San Pedro jail for assault with a deadly weapon.

He was later released and the charges dropped when his wife refused to push the prosecution.

## Cast on Chest Saves Woman From Pick Stab

A plaster cast about her chest saved her from being stabbed, perhaps fatally, with an ice pick wielded by her husband, Mrs. Wanda Falls, 22, 1512 W. 210th street, told Harbor police this week.

The young bride, victim of a recent auto accident, showed police a hole in the cast over her heart and a small flesh wound claimed to have been made with the point of the

## Oil Workers Idea Turns to Gold

"That's a good suggestion," is a common phrase with a very extraordinary meaning for Howard H. Hannon, a stillman at the General Petroleum Corporation refinery in Torrance.

Hannon, an employee of the refinery for the past 10 years, knew when he dropped an idea into the company's suggestion box that he had a worthwhile idea, but he didn't know just how much it was worth.

Company engineers reviewed his suggestion for taking a sample of used catalyst—a device which would not require the "Cracker" to be shut down during the sampling. The welders and boilermakers went to work and installed Hannon's scoop.

Last Thursday Robert L. Minckler, president of the oil company, came to the refinery to observe Hannon's "suggestion" in operation and to present the local oil worker with a check for \$1500—clear.

Surprised that his idea was worth so much Hannon could only mutter, "That'll sure buy a lot of fishing tackle."

Like most good suggestions Hannon's was a simple one. It entailed the construction of a bucket-like device which could be inserted into the stream of small clay pellets for the purpose of taking a sample for laboratory testing. Previously when a sample was required the "cracker" had to be shut down. Elevators laden with the weight of tons of clay pellets often could not overcome the inertia to resume operation. Motors burned out, time was lost and production of gasoline stopped on occasions for as long as six to eight hours. Hannon's idea eliminated those costly delays and repairs.

Said Hannon to President Minckler as the "idea man" dug his hand into a bucketful of clay pellets, " . . . Never thought I'd find gold in them 'tar stiffs'."

The rewarding of an employee for a suggestion is not new with the company. The corporation has been doling out bonus for employee suggestions to improve operations for a number of years.



BRIGHT IDEA TURNS TO GOLD . . . Robert L. Minckler, president of the General Petroleum Corporation (left), listens to an explanation from Howard H. Hannon on how the latter's idea works for taking samples of clay pellets from the gasoline-making still at the local refinery. Hannon's idea netted him \$1500 through the company's suggestion box plan.



TO SPEARHEAD RED FEATHER DRIVE . . . Filled last Thursday by appointment of Community Chest Chairman Jack Dabbs was the board of strategy which this week began planning the 1951 campaign which will be climaxed with the "big push" for funds sometime in October. Pictured are (left to right) Sam Levy, industry; Mrs. B. T. Whitney, residential; Dick Miller (standing) vice-chairman and public.

ity, Chairman Dabbs; Dr. J. H. Hull, (background) schools; Don Armstrong, vice-chairman and Paul Diamond, business. Other members of the staff include Dean Sears, co-chairman of both business and advance gifts, and Mayor Bob L. Haggard, chairman of the advance gifts division. (Herald photo).

## State to Check Four Traffic 'Dangerspots'

Final tabulations of the amount of traffic at the "murder mile intersection" of Pacific Coast highway and Newton in Welteria will be made early next week, and recommendations forwarded to Sacramento soon after, it was reported today.

A partial survey was taken at Crenshaw boulevard and the highway, just east of the murderous crossing, last week by field crews from the division of highways.

Gerald W. Skiles, assistant director of traffic investigation for the state agency, informed the Herald this week that traffic checks will be completed at these two crossings, and also at avenues H and I near the Redondo Beach Torrance boundary.

Pictures of recent traffic accidents at the dangerous intersection taken by press photographers, and accidents reports for the past years are being gathered by the investigator for his final report.

An eight-hour check will be made of the number of vehicles using the main arteries in the vicinity, as well as a report on their speed, Skiles said.

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## Youth Held After Traffic Accident

Charged with reckless driving and being held in lieu of \$150 bail this week is an 18-year old driver who is said to have hit and injured a four-year old girl on Arlington avenue south of 203rd street last Sunday afternoon.

Injured was Kathy Lopez, 2290 Arlington avenue, according to Torrance police. She was taken to the Harbor General Hospital and later transferred to the Torrance Memorial Hospital where she is being treated for head injuries, cuts and bruises.

In jail awaiting trial is Ruben Armenta Molina, 2257 West 203rd street.

## Escapee's Bail Set At \$5000

Tony Escobar, 19-year-old who leaped over a counter at the Torrance police station while being booked July 29, was held to answer last Thursday and is currently awaiting trial in the Los Angeles county jail on a charge of attempted armed robbery and jail escape.

Bail for Escobar, who gave his address as 2129 West 203rd street, was set at \$5000.

He will be arraigned in a Long Beach Superior Court today.

Escobar is accused of the attempted armed robbery of a Welteria service station, for which he was being booked at the time he escaped from the local jail. He was recaptured five days later on an anonymous phone call and with the help of a four-year-old girl who disclosed to Torrance police that he was hiding beneath the sink in a neighbor house.

## Bergh Bows Out At Retirement Party

County area surrounding Torrance got a new police chief today.

He is Captain L. F. "Larry" Carmack, who officially took over the reins, and the keys of the 80-man Lennox sheriff's sub-station, the center of law enforcement for nearby county areas.

Carmack was handed the keys to the local lock-up yesterday afternoon by retiring "skipper" Captain Ray L. Bergh, who hung up his badge and gun after 32 years of public life. Bergh was honored by sheriff's office personnel and local civic officials at a retirement luncheon held at the Lennox station yesterday.

A sixteen-year veteran of the sheriff's office, Carmack comes to this area from the Montrose substation where he had been since April, 1951. Prior to that, the new station boss commanded the Emergency Ambulance and Hospital Division of the sheriff's department, and was formerly lieutenant in charge of Homicide at the headquarters Detectives Bureau.

Bergh was presented with a television set by members of the office force at the station, and also received other "going-away" gifts from friends and associates. He plans to accept a post with the Hollywood Park Turf Club after a short vacation.

The new station commander joined the sheriff's office in 1935; he was a deputy county coroner for seven years prior to that. His first assignment with the racket breakers was as a court deputy, working civil and criminal superior courts.

Carmack, a large soft-spoken gent, puts "impartial law enforcement" as his motto for



KEEPER OF THE KEYS . . . Captain L. F. "Larry" Carmack, who today takes over as head of the county law enforcement agency, receives keys to the station from Captain Ray L. Bergh, retiring sheriff station skipper. (Staff photo)