

Second Wreck at Same Spot Mars No-Death Record CITY POPULATION TOPS 31,000 MARK AS SPECIAL CENSUS TALLY FINISHED

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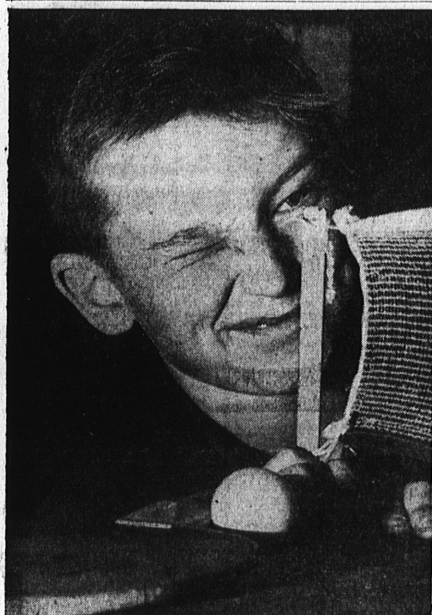
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"Y" ACTIVITY . . . Steve Smith casts an expert eye along the ping-pong net before taking on a pal in a table tennis game at the local YMCA hall. The 1952 "Y" Fund Campaign officially got under way here last night. (Herald photo).

YMCA Opens Annual Support Campaign

Beginning today Torrance residents will be asked to help support the activities of the local YMCA for another year. At a kickoff meeting last night at the Ding How cafe, local YMCA adult volunteer division commanders and workers were briefed for the task ahead.

Under the leadership of M. M. Schwab, A. C. Turner, Bill Patterson and V. T. Vanderpool, all division commanders, more than 70 men will launch a field campaign today in an attempt to raise the field goal of \$5000.

Don Armstrong, general chairman of the current support campaign, has set his sights on a total goal of \$12,500 — the amount estimated by L. Milton Ishell, executive secretary of the YMCA, as the amount necessary to carry out the activities of the "Y" in Torrance during the coming year.

Ray Peterson, chairman of the field campaign, has called a meeting for next Wednesday to determine the success of the field campaign. Individual, small business and organizational contacts are Peterson's responsibilities.

The Initial Gifts Committee under the chairmanship of

Dr. Rollin Smith has raised \$2600 of the \$7500 goal.

"Last year the YMCA sponsored 414 club meetings with an attendance of 7097 boys. This year the town is bigger than it was, with more boys eager to enter "Y" activities," Chairman Armstrong said. "If the 'Y' is to continue to serve the youth of this community it must receive the support of the citizens. The more we give the more the 'Y' can do."

Last year the local YMCA conducted 317 athletic contests with 7909 boys participating. More than 1600 boys attended summer YMCA camps with 80 per cent of the boys making Christian commitments at voluntary religious services.

In cooperation with the Torrance Lions Club and time donated by municipal bus drivers, the YMCA was able to furnish swimming instructions to 260 boys.

Highway Crash Kills Mother; Five Injured

The second serious traffic accident in the same location in a week claimed the life of a 56-year-old mother and injured five others early Sunday evening.

Mrs. Katherine Stallings, Santa Barbara, was pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor Hospital after she was involved in a near head-on crash on busy Pacific Coast Hwy., at Vista del Parque, near the Seaside Ranches entrance.

Her death marred Torrance's record of no fatalities in traffic accidents since the beginning of the new year.

Thomas Brunnett, 23, of 24239 Las Codonas, Waverly, driver of the other car, was seriously injured, as were the other occupants in the death auto.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital were Francis Stallings, 54, twin daughters, Claire and Collette, 16, and Thomas Burron, 72, behind the wheel of the car.

Last Sunday a spectacular three-car crash within 50 feet of the Vista del Parque intersection sent eight persons to Harbor hospital. Police investigators reported that one car crossed over the double white line, striking a second, which then hit a third auto.

In this recent collision, officers said that Burron's machine swerved into the path of Brunnett's auto. Burron was attempting to avoid another car, which allegedly swung into his lane of traffic. Those riding with Mrs. Stallings were returning to Santa Barbara after a visit with a son in Long Beach.

Traffic investigators Donald Nash and J. E. Thompson handled the reports.

Boy Hit by Auto Painfully Hurt

Nine-year-old Clawson Fawcett of 1011 Cranbrook Ave. received a possible fractured leg and severe facial lacerations at noon yesterday when he was struck by a car on Torrance Blvd. Parkway at Cranbrook Ave.

Driver of the auto, James P. McNichols, 51, of Santa Monica, told Police Officer John Maestri that the boy darted out from behind a parked car. McNichols was not held.

Clawson was rushed to Torrance Memorial Hospital by Figueroa-Miller ambulance.

Tax Collector

Deputy Tax Collector O. J. Jensen will be at the Torrance City Hall from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. next Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 18 and 19, to assist taxpayers in filing their individual income tax returns.

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TUT Crowd Puts Smokescreen Out For 'Taxpayers'

By JACK BALDWIN

Busy as bees this past week were members of TUT, who were scurrying about calling quickie political huddles here and there, trying to round up their rolling apples after they tipped over their political apple cart last week.

It was rather obvious that the organizers of TUT were not ready to announce their slate of candidates for the forthcoming city council election and were rocked a bit when we spilled the beans exclusively last week.

The news smoked them out into the open. They came forward with a copy of the Articles of Incorporation. Listed as president of the organization was Frank S. Selover, executive secretary of the Harbor Area Employers Council. We identified him last week in our story as the big wheel in the organization.

He has retreated, saying that he can better serve them under cover than out in front. He did not attend the last meeting of the TUT organization.

For those who may not know, TUT is a word coined from using the initials of a group who call themselves by the high falutin' name of the Torrance Unified Taxpayers.

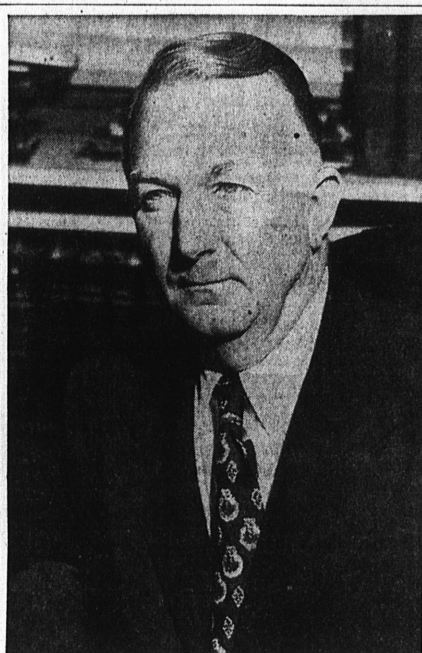
They once considered the name of Torrance Independent Taxpayers but quickly abandoned the name.

Let's make a point clear. These people are not Communists. We're not to label them, we would be guilty of crying "wolf." And rightfully so. But, they certainly have torn a leaf from the Reds' notebook in choosing a name like the Torrance Unified Taxpayers, Inc.

The Reds are famous for the use of the smoke screen name technique. They choose a title of six to a dozen words for an organization in an attempt to camouflage their real activities.

And so it is with the Torrance Unified Taxpayers. Their sole purpose of being is to run Nick Drule, Victor Benstead, and Al Isen for council. They have not publicly announced.

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DONALD ARMSTRONG
... Makes Mexico Reservations

Attorney Named Rotary President

Attorney Donald Armstrong was named yesterday to succeed Russell Lund as president of the Torrance Rotary Club at the end of the club's official year in July.

Selection of Armstrong by the board of directors so far ahead of his installation as president was made so he could make his reservations for the international convention of the service organization in Mexico City next May.

The new Rotary president has indicated that he and Mrs. Armstrong will attend the convention. Others from the club may possibly attend also, he said.

Armstrong, the city attorney for Palos Verdes Estates, has law offices with Judge John A. Shidler in Torrance. He recently headed the Community Chest drive for Palos Verdes and is currently the general chairman of the YMCA's current support campaign.

He has been a member of the Rotary board of directors and was coordinator of club service committees for the club during the past year.

Carl S. Warner, superintendent of maintenance and utilities for Columbia Steel here, was named vice-president by the board.

He will succeed Judge Shidler in July.

The new board of directors, elected from members at large, include Armstrong, Jack Dabbs, Lund, Shidler, Warner and William A. Zoeller.

Karlow First To File for Council Race

City Councilman Ed Karlow returned his nominating petition to the city clerk yesterday to become the first candidate to officially enter the councilmanic race in April.

Issued by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett were three other petitions to Nick Cucel, former councilman. Although Cucel did not declare in whose name he was acquiring the petitions, he undoubtedly will return them in the name of Nick Drule, Victor Benstead, and Al Isen, the three candidates on the TUT ticket.

Two other petitions were issued by Bartlett. One went to Mrs. Harriett Leech, city treasurer, and one to Walter Heiman. Heiman did not declare for whom he was taking out a petition, but political observers believe it to be for James Evans, former local businessman, who is reported to be seeking the job as city treasurer.

Senators Say:

40th Korea Duty Perfectly Legal

Nothing in the terms of enlistment of those men in the National Guard can prevent them from serving in Korea or any place overseas, California Senators William F. Knowland and Richard Nixon revealed this week.

The two officials conferred with Department of the Army "bigwigs" following protests by parents lodged at the Army for moving members of California's own 40th Division from Japan into actual combat action.

In a special press release issued jointly by the Senators it was pointed out that under authority of the National Defense Act of 1920 a guard unit becomes an integral part of the Army when ordered into



BIKE WRECK VICTIM . . . Charles "Chris" Hammond is comforted by passersby while awaiting the arrival of an ambulance. He and a pal were hurt when the bike they were riding crashed into an auto Saturday at 203rd St. and Crenshaw Blvd. (Herald photo).

Find 31,517 In Special City Census

Population of the city of Torrance was officially pegged at 31,517, yesterday in a report handed City Manager George Stevens by Kenneth G. Spiker, who has been conducting a special census here for the past several weeks.

The final figure was several thousand above Spiker's preliminary estimate, made several weeks ago, and was over nearly everyone's predictions.

City Manager Stevens had been holding out for 30,000—even after Spiker said two weeks ago that it looked more like 28,000.

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett said he thought the special census would turn up about 30,000. Dale Isenberg, executive secretary of the chamber, said the figure was "terrific," when told of the final tally.

"The growth of Torrance from 22,201 in 1950 to 31,517 in less than two years is really great," he said. "It certainly shows what the potentiality is in Torrance," he added.

Spiker left yesterday for Anaheim, where he is scheduled to begin a special census there. After that—San Diego, he said.

The increase in population will mean an increase of approximately \$65,000 a year in gas tax and in lieu tax returns from the state, Stevens said. The total cost of the census was \$3826.52.

Bike Riding Boys Hurt In Wreck

Two boys were injured, neither seriously, when the bike they were riding collided with a vehicle at 203rd St. and Crenshaw Blvd., Saturday afternoon. Injured were Charles C. Hammond, 7, of 2311 W. 203rd St., and Coy E. Vaughn, 9, of 2422 W. 203rd St.

According to Torrance police investigators D. S. Hamilton, the kids, both riding on the same bike, came off of a hill on the edge of Crenshaw and were struck by an auto driven by Charles H. Bingham, 17, 2423 W. 203rd St.

Bingham, according to police, was turning left onto the roadway and did not see the bike. He was traveling only five miles per hour.

The boys were taken to Harbor General Hospital by Figueroa-Miller ambulance.

Recreation Plan Will Not Appear On April Ballot

To guard against its plan being sacrificed on a political altar, the City Recreation Commission voted Friday evening against placing the 15-year plan before the people at the councilmanic election in April.

By unanimous vote of those present it was decided to divorce the matter from the council election and instead to place the issue before the local voters at a special election—possibly in early summer.

The commission instructed City Attorney James Hall to draft the necessary ordinance setting forth the plan whereby the commission would acquire approximately \$558,000 to finance its long-range recreation facility program.

The commissioners plan to finance the plan by levying a trash collection service charge on residences, businesses and industries.

Still facing the commission is the question of how to collect the service charge once it is voted by the people. An earlier proposal that the service charge be billed with the water bill was considered clumsy when it was pointed out that the residents of Torrance are served by seven different water agencies, some privately owned.

Attending the meeting were A. J. Patrosky, chairman; J. A.

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SHIDLER CITES NEED FOR SCHOOLS

"Personal beefs and gripes against the Board of Education and school administrators are a serious threat to the building program of the local schools," Judge John A. Shidler, president of the Board, told the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee Monday noon.

The board president was commenting on the \$3,000,000 school bond issue, which the voters have been asked to support on February 26.

"Don't let the bonds suffer because of personal dislikes," he said. "Don't take it out on the buildings." He was referring to the buildings and classrooms needed to house the 600 children now on double sessions in local schools. He commented on a report

compiled by district officials and given to those attending the regular meeting of the advisory group.

The report showed that in 1947 there were 212 pupils in kindergarten where as today there are 862 students enrolled.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, stated that the \$3,000,000 is not all that is needed to adequately house local school children.

"We have reached the end of the rope as far as our bonding capacity is concerned," he said. "We must now turn to the state for aid."

School administrators estimate the \$3,000,000 will buy one high school and three elementary schools.

"The birth rate since before the war has practically doubled. Even if Torrance had shown no population gain during the past 10 years we would still need another high school to house the children born during the high birth rate years and who will soon become of high school age," Hull pointed out. "In the meantime the population of Torrance has increased nearly 50 per cent during the past two years. Right now the need for classrooms is four times as great as it was before the war."

Hull told the group that new children were entering Torrance schools at the rate of 25 per day.

The bond issue proposes that the Torrance voters agree to bond themselves for \$3,000,000

for the next 25 years. According to figures compiled by district officials, business and industry will pay 80 per cent or \$2,400,000; residential and other property will pay 20 per cent or \$600,000.

In effect it means that each home in Torrance will pay \$60 during the next quarter of a century, or an average of five cents per week for three new elementary schools and one high school.

Based on a \$10,000 assessed valuation the cost will show on the tax bill as an increase of \$2.50 per year.

In his warnings to the group, Shidler urged the TEAC members not to allow the bond issue to become a part of the forthcoming council election.