

Mountain Trip Denied, Girl, 13, Attempts Suicide

LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL RESIGNS

City 10th in Western States Building

—the ONLY Newspaper Published AND PRINTED in Torrance. Established 1914.

5¢
Per Copy

TORRANCE HERALD

—and Torrance Herald Shoppers Reach 100,000 Buyers

Entered as second class matter Jan. 30, 1914, at postoffice Torrance, California, under Act of March 3, 1879.

39th Year—No. 7

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1953

PHONE TORRANCE 444

24 PAGES



SIX HURT . . . After driver failed to make a boulevard stop, these three cars crashed at East Rd. and Figueroa early Tuesday night sending six persons to the Harbor General Hospital.

Magner To Succeed Resigning Steinbaugh

Resignation of High School Principal John K. Steinbaugh and the appointment of Vice Principal Wallace Bruce Magner Jr. as the new principal effective Feb. 1, was approved by the Board of Education here Tuesday evening.

In a surprise move, Steinbaugh submitted his resignation and a request to be reclassified as a seventh grade teacher to permit him to complete studies for a doctor's degree, he told the board in a letter.

His resignation was accepted with regrets and his request to be reclassified was granted. Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, told the board members that Steinbaugh would probably be assigned a class at the new Riviera Elementary School.

Steinbaugh has been principal of the Torrance High School

and English, and has completed a portion of the study leading to his doctorate. He said it will require the rest of this year and about all of next to complete the work.

He is a member of the National Education Association, Phi Delta Kappa, and a past president of the Torrance Rotary Club. He has service on the YMCA board of managers and was its president in 1951.

Magner came to Torrance in 1951 as vice-principal of the Torrance Elementary School. He was moved into the high school last September as vice-principal to succeed Charles Wallace, who went to Arcadia as principal.

After Redlands College, where he received his A.B. Magner attended the University of Southern California, for his master's degree in education.

The new principal started his career in education with the Burbank School District. He later spent five years with the Los Angeles City Schools, where he was counselor-coordinator for the district and traveled throughout the system.

A Navy lieutenant during World War II, Magner served in staff assignments on the east coast and in the cruiser division in the Pacific Theater.

He is a member of the Torrance Kiwanis Club and the Phi Delta Kappa, professional education fraternality. He and his



PRINCIPAL STEINBAUGH . . . After Doctor's Degree



BRUCE MAGNER JR. . . . New Principal

since coming here in 1948. Prior to that time he was principal of the Abraham Lincoln High School in Council Bluffs, Iowa, the high school he had previously attended.

During World War II he was officer in charge of ground school for Naval Aviation Cadets at Glenview (Ill.) Naval Air Station and was personnel officer of a Naval Air Transport Squadron at Patuxent River (Md.) Air Station. He was released from the Navy in 1946 as a lieutenant commander.

He commenced his career in education as a teacher in Iowa and is a graduate of Creighton University in Omaha. He has Ph.D. and M.A. degrees in history

Six Injured in Three-Car Crash On East Road

Three cars crashed together Tuesday night at East Rd. and Figueroa St. injuring six persons including two from Canada and two from Hawaii.

California Highway Patrol investigators sent the injured to the Harbor General Hospital and then from the position of the cars attempted to determine how the accident occurred. One driver gave the clue to the accident when he told Sgt. Lloyd W. Watson of the CHP that he failed to see the stop sign on East Rd. Evidence showed his car was hit broadside and then knocked into the path of the third car, which rammed into the other side.

Treated for injuries were: Joan Thompson, 21, of 23 Duke St., Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, head injuries.

Dan Johnson, 24, 240 Forrest Ave., Laguna Beach, multiple abrasions, released.

Virginia Hill, 15, 16318 So. Pannes St., Compton, possible skull fracture, fractured jaw, skull fracture, fractured jawbone, probably compound arm.

Windfeldt Kaoo, 30, of 885 W. Oliver St., San Pedro possible skull fracture, possible rib fracture, and lacerations.

John Kaulu, 32, same address, possible concussion, puncture wound over right eye, and probably fracture of left shoulder.

Neil Wagerle, 16, 711 W. Tichenor, Compton, possible rib fractures.

Kaulu and Kaoo told hospital attendants they are natives of Hawaii.

Interested citizens, both men and women, packed the City Court room Monday afternoon to look at diagrams and hear a description of a set of curved steps believed to be the entrance to the scene of the criminal attack. It was the location of these curved concrete steps which the police asked help in locating.

Police Chief John Stroh told the women:

"If we can find the location of those steps which the little victim saw beneath her blindfold, we will know the identity of the man."

With the aid of Sgt. D. C. Cook, who heads the manhunt, Chief Stroh assigned 35 search areas within a five-mile radius of the city. The women, using their own cars, then provided the search quadrants reporting to police the location of three to five concrete steps leading to a building from a concrete approach. The search encompassed all of Lomita and Harbor City, and extended northward to take in parts of Gardena.

The women reported the location of 25 different sets of curved steps which may have been the rapist's hideout.

Sgt. Cook and Officer Gus Rethwisch began checking immediately each location.

It was the eagerness of individual women and various women's groups in the city which prompted the manhunt—the greatest organized effort ever attempted in Torrance. The idea to organize a hunt came after a score of women called the Torrance Herald and the police department asking, "What can we do?" After several women reported to this newspaper, they were conducting searches on

briefing, 35 car loads of volunteers searched area surrounding Torrance in an effort to locate the curved set of steps. Scene is in the City Courtroom last Monday afternoon.

Crash Victim Remains Unconscious, Critical

Still unconscious and in critical condition at Harbor General Hospital yesterday was Warren E. Hanley, 46, of Palos Verdes, whose auto smashed into a power pole west of Hawthorne Ave. on 100th St. Friday night.

Mrs. Hanley, who was freed for minor injuries following the collision, is maintaining a bedside vigil over her injured husband.

His wife, Sara Jane, have two children, Sharon Ann, a fifth grader, and 7-month-old James Bruce.

65 WOMEN JOIN MANHUNT FOR KIDNAPER, RAPIST

Police Check Leads

Police, acting on a score of tips furnished by 65 women who volunteered Monday to help trap a rapist of a 10-year-old Torrance girl began tightening the net around the kidnaper-
rapist this week with hopes of snaring the sex maniac before he hits again.



OPERATION MANHUNT . . . Crowd of 65 men and women listen to Sgt. D. C. Cook describe set of curved steps believed to be the entrance to a building where a 10-year-old girl was criminally attacked on Jan. 11. After

Only Two Pass Exam For Play Director

A recent Civil Service examination for director of recreation of the City of Torrance, showed that only two out of 20 men, Harry B. Van Bellehen, a recreation director of Los Angeles, and Frank Carpenter, recreation director of Torrance, passed the exam—and in that order.

Either the appointment of a new recreation director, or the reappointment of Carpenter will be left to the discretion of the City Council. All other municipal department heads are appointed by the city manager, but under a new city ordinance pertaining to recreation, the City Council makes the appointment of the recreation director.

When the re-examination was called twenty men indicated they would take the exam. Six actually took the test, with only Van Bellehen, a senior recreation director for the City of Los Angeles, and Carpenter, passing the stiff written and oral test.

The City Council can appoint anyone of the three top men. However, in this case, where there are but two top men, the council can either appoint one of the two candidates or call for another examination to get a three-man eligibility list.

Deputies Crash Motel To Foil Suicide Attempt

"My folks wouldn't let me go to the mountains, so that's why I did this," she said.

With this terse note explaining her actions, a 13-year-old Torrance girl attempted suicide Saturday night, but was saved by deputies as she lay bleeding at the wrists and sprawled across a bed in a Lomita motel.

Sheriff's deputies acting on a tip that the girl, who had been reported earlier as a runaway, could be found at the motel at 2310 Pacific Coast Hwy., attempted to locate the girl for questioning. They found the door to the motel cabin locked. Looking through a window in the rear they saw the girl and immediately smashed in the door.

She was rushed to the Hillside Community Hospital, treated, and then released to the custody of her parents. The hospital attendants said she had not lost much blood before she was discovered.

The girl told deputies she was able to register at the motel after telling the proprietor that she was the wife of a sailor stationed in San Pedro.

Attorney Boris Woolley Considered for City Post

The name of Attorney Boris Woolley was submitted to the City Council last night along with a recommendation that he be temporarily appointed city prosecutor, according to Jim Hall, city attorney.

However, since last night's meeting was an agenda meeting, the council cannot take official action on the recommendation until its next regular meeting on Jan. 27.

Should Woolley's appointment be approved by the Council it would be on a temporary basis and under a "set acquainted" status. Neither the Council nor Woolley know exactly how time consuming the position will be since the prosecutor's job is a newly created office.

Needs of the city do not indicate that at present the services of a full-time prosecutor are needed or justified.

Auto Hits Trees Killing Driver

Killed early Sunday morning when his auto struck two trees and overturned on Main St. south of 223rd, was Tony Perez Ramirez, 46, of 20808 Jamison Ave.

California Highway Patrol officers said Ramirez was pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital.

Officers said the victim's car ran off the highway, hit a tree, slammed into another one, and rolled back onto the roadway. Firemen worked for more than 30 minutes with cutting torches to remove his body from the demolished car.

Judge Orders Hearing For Strong-Arm Suspect

A San Pedro man was held Monday to answer charges of a strong-arm robbery of a Torrance man in a preliminary hearing before Municipal Judge Walter Odemar.

Ordered arraigned in Long Beach Superior Court on Jan. 28 with bail set at \$2000 was Linnie H. Moore, 32, who is accused of robbing George M. Hason, 31, of 21133 Denby Ave. of a wallet containing \$15 in cash in San Pedro on Jan. 7.

\$100 Loot Found; Runaway Boys Nabbed in Ariz.

Two boys, one 13, the other 14, were picked up in Kingman, Ariz., Saturday with \$100 in their jeans what was left from a burglary they said they committed before leaving Torrance.

The boys told Kingman police officers they had burglarized a house, one with blankets hanging across the windows, and had found \$100 in the bedroom. They said the house was located in Palos Verdes, but Torrance police checking with the police there were informed no burglary reported in Palos Verdes.

The father of one of the boys left Sunday for Kingman, to return the boys here.

BEBE WINS A MEDAL

For Being a Good American

BeBe, a 21-year-old feline who loves elections, received a medal this week for being the nation's number one poll cat.

In spite of the fact that BeBe has never voted, although he is old enough, the pet of Mr. and Mrs. Addis Thomas, 22401 Ocean Ave., has been going to the polls with his owners every election day, since his first meow.

When election supplies arrive at the Thomas household, the feline makes a bee-line for the pile of paraphernalia and natively perches himself atop the stack—and there he stays until the supplies are carted away.

Practically anyone will have to admit that to make nearly 100 trips to the polls in 21 years, even for a cat, is a pretty good record—and we aren't kidding.

The alert makers of Puss 'N' Boots cat food spotted the story about BeBe, the Angora pollcat, and awarded him a bronze medal.

Reads the medallion: "Awarded to BeBe through Mr. and Mrs. Addis Thomas for contributing to human happiness and exhibiting other admirable traits, this pet has further elevated the cat as man's friend, loyal companion, vigilant protector."



BEBE, ITEMS FOR THE SCRAPBOOK, A CITATION, AND A MEDAL . . . Sets a Mark for Good Americans to Shoot at

Rank	Volume '52	% chg.
(1) Los Angeles	4,851,827,111	27.8
(2) San Diego	87,776,475	37.3
(3) Seattle	82,945,365	47.7
(4) Long Beach	47,763,070	19.9
(5) Portland	47,629,355	31.2
(6) San Francisco	47,629,355	14.2
(7) Oakland	27,563,403	11.5
(8) Spokane	21,611,418	3.0
(9) Pomona	21,305,862	22.4
(10) TORRANCE	18,160,117	44.7
(11) Salt Lake City	16,750,521	8.4
(12) Burbank	16,106,216	38.0