

BOY FALLS 40 FEET ON ROCKS, RECEIVES CRITICAL INJURIES

Weston Hills Homeowners Check Drain Plan

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RETAIL CLERKS, MERCHANTS AGREE TO WAGE SETTLEMENT



CRASH SCENE . . . Two persons were seriously injured Saturday afternoon in this three-car smashup on Western Ave. across from the entrance to Douglas Aircraft Co. Raymond Dye of Torrance, (on ground) a leadman at Harvey Machine, was badly hurt after his car bounced off the rear of a car that was turning into Douglas and crashed head-on into the third car, (right) which was going the opposite way. He and the woman driver of the third vehicle were taken to Harbor General Hospital. The driver of the first auto escaped injury.

Dabbs, Sherfey Seek Trustee Post at Camino

Two Torrance men have filed petitions to succeed Charles V. Jones as a member of the El Camino Junior College board of trustees in the May 21 school election. It was learned here this week. Jones will not be a candidate.

Filing petitions for the post were Jack N. Dabbs, of 1640 Juniper Ave., manager of M&M Enterprises, operators of the Stadium and Torrance theaters; and J. Hugh Sherfey Jr., former Torrance mayor, member of the city's Planning Commission, and operator of Stone and Myers Mortuary.

Deadline for nominations for the election are next Wednesday, April 21.

Plan Carson Zoning Meet

A public meeting has been called for April 30 in the Carson area for the purpose of hearing pros and cons on the proposed zoning plan for the district.

The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Plasterers' and Cement Finishers' Union Hall, 322 W. Carson St. Staff members from the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission will attend the meeting, which was called by the Zoning Committee of the area.

Board Considering Dresser, Smith Case

Two city building department officials, suspended since last month on a list of charges growing out of state investigations of North Torrance home developments, were given a chance to have their side of the story heard Wednesday in a hearing before the Torrance Civil Service Board.

The day-long hearing, which didn't adjourn until 9 p.m. Wednesday, was held in the City Hall to determine whether James S. Dresser, city building inspector, and his assistant, Cecil Smith, should be dismissed or reinstated.

Following the day-long meeting, the Civil Service Board took the matter under advisement. They have 10 days to prepare a recommendation for the City Council.

Principal discussion Wednesday centered around seven homes built in the Crenshaw Gardens area of North Torrance, and whether the Uniform Building Code of 1949, which is used by the city, requires 12 or 18 inches of foundation.

The city, whose case was being presented by City Prosecutor Boris S. Woolley, maintained that the code requires footings to be 18 inches in depth while Dresser and Smith, represented by Atty. John McCall, held that the code should be interpreted to call for footings of 12 inches in the case in question.

Both Dresser and Smith made formal denials at the hearing that any building code violations in the seven homes were allowed. Evidence of homes settling, pointed out by exhibits showing wall cracks, were said by the two suspended officials to be due to the nature of the

Open Hearth Work Resumes At US Steel

Open hearth furnace operations, which had been suspended since late February during installation of a new 88-ton charging machine, were resumed this week at the Torrance Works of United States Steel's Columbia-Geneva Steel Division, and more than 100 employees have been called back to work.

Operations will be on a two-furnace basis, with two of the plant's four 60-ton open hearth furnaces being held in reserve. C. C. Morgan, general superintendent, said.

Approximately 130 open hearth maintenance, service and staff personnel, who have been on furlough during the installation of the new equipment, have been recalled to work.

The new charging machine, which moves along a set of tracks in front of the furnaces, is used to load the open hearths with pig iron and steel scrap, the basic ingredients in a heat of steel. The apparatus has a charging capacity of seven and half tons.

Approximately eight hours after the new machine dumped its initial load, the first heat of steel in seven weeks was tapped from the open hearth furnaces, each of which is equipped with electrostatic precipitators to eliminate smoke and metallic dusts generated during the steel making process.

New Councilman Cites Gratitude

Following confirmation of his election to the Torrance City Council this week, Atty. Albert Izen issued the following statement:

"I am deeply grateful for the confidence reposed in me by the people of Torrance in the election Tuesday and I am aware of the responsibility which accompanies my election as City Councilman.

"I shall serve in this office to the fullest extent of my energy and ability.

"I want to express my appreciation to all the many friends who participated in my campaign and made my election possible."

Clerks, Merchants Agree on Contract

A threatened strike of retail clerks which would have tied up stores in the harbor area was believed averted in Los Angeles Thursday as State Conciliator Ed Peters mediated an agreement between employers and the clerks.

Following a day-long session in the State Conciliator's office, the clerks and employers agreed to a dollar a week increase retroactive to Feb. 3, 1954, and an additional dollar a week increase effective Aug. 1, 1954.

Term of the contract was set at one year, instead of the three years sought by the clerks.

Acting Secretary Ben Scott of the Retail Clerks Local 905 said yesterday that only minor parts of the contract were delaying the signing now.

In a mass meeting of clerks last Tuesday, officials of the local were given the authority to call a strike against harbor area stores if a contract could not be negotiated.

Young Climber Critically Hurt

An eight-year-old Torrance boy was in critical condition at Harbor General Hospital yesterday following a tumble estimated at 40 feet into a rocky gully in the hills above WALTERIA late Friday evening.

Critically injured was Robert Norburt Holst, of 4923 Marion St., who was climbing with his brother and another youth when he slipped and fell into the rocky ravine.

Young Holst was taken to Harbor General Hospital with serious head and body injuries.

Torrance officers Mickey Fischer and Jim Mitchell, who rushed to the scene of the fall, said the injured lad and the other boys, 10 and 13, had been climbing when Robert fell. His brother raced down the hill and had a resident nearby call the ambulance.

South Bay Ambulance Co., whose ambulances are stationed in Redondo Beach, called Torrance police to verify the call, according to Torrance police. The boy was removed to Harbor General Hospital several minutes later.

Hospital attendants told Torrance police yesterday that the boy's condition was still critical but that he had a good chance to recover.

Scene of the fall was on the hill behind the 3900 block on Newton St. in WALTERIA.

'Shoeless' Wins Another Round

Walter "Shoeless" Shumaker, 73, Torrance's Barefoot Boy, has taken another step upwards in his long court battle with Mrs. Edith Mae Foster, 71, who says she married Shumaker in Mexico two years ago.

A motion by Mrs. Foster's attorney to remove a writ authorizing the sale of Shumaker's home, now occupied by Mrs. Foster, was denied Monday in Los Angeles Superior Court.

A sheriff's sale of the home had been scheduled to be held in March to obtain funds to satisfy a judgment against the woman.

Shumaker's attorney said that about \$23,000 of the man's money and property is involved. The court has ruled that the Mexico marriage was invalid and "Shoeless" is trying to get his money back.

Purchase in Escrow For Perry School Addition

The purchase of two-and-a-half acres of land, at \$6000 an acre, for an addition to the Perry Elementary School has gone into escrow, according to Emmett Ingram, business manager of the Torrance Unified School District.

The acreage will be used for additional classroom and playground space.

'Staggered' Sessions Set for High School

A "staggered" class schedule, resembling double sessions, will have to be installed next year at Torrance High School to accommodate a greatly increased enrollment, according to Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools.

Large eighth grade classes at all elementary schools, plus the anticipated increase in population, will cram the present high school with 2000 students next year, Hull stated.

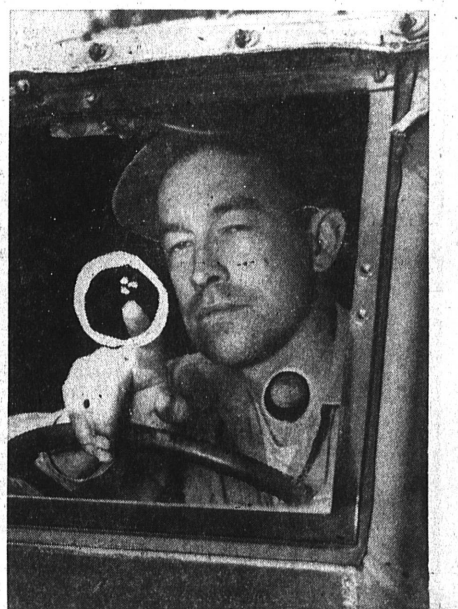
Since the buildings will only hold 1500, a "staggered" session will have to be installed until the new North Torrance High School is opened in 1955.

Freshmen and sophomores will attend afternoon classes and juniors and seniors will go to class in the morning, with some overlapping around noon, Hull said.

Students will attend school for the same length of time, but will go earlier and be released later. The superintendent estimated that about 17 additional teachers will be hired next year.

Construction on the new North Torrance High School at 182nd St. and Yukon Ave., which is planned to hold 1600 students, will begin this summer and will not be completed until the middle of 1955.

"There may be a day when



SUPERBOMB DUST . . . Stanley Merrifield, of 1928 Paces Del Amo, thinks that Seattle cosmic dust or whatever it is that is pitting windshields up there has blown down in this direction. He noticed some small pits in his Jeep windshield Friday evening and reported them to Police Sgt. Ted Morris yesterday when he found that they had "grown" during the night.

City Engineer Shows Plans to Homeowners

Homeowners from the Weston Hills area who have been complaining to city officials that water will not drain out of their home lots, met with City Engineer Ronald Bishop here Friday evening and went over the tract, lot by lot, and checked his recommendations for correcting the situation.

Committees Draft Letter on Water Tank Grievances

As a result of a joint meeting of two Hollywood Riviera committees Friday night, a letter will be sent to Mayor Merrin M. Schwab, each city councilman and to the State Public Utilities Committee this week stating the grievances held by Riviera residents over unsightly water tanks which have been erected in the area by California Water Service.

The committees, one from the Riviera Sportsman's Club and the other from the Homeowners' group, hope that the letter will move the Homeowners to authorize necessary action to have the area annexed to the Torrance Municipal Water District so that the tanks can be removed.

The Homeowners will take action on the document at their next meeting, slated for May 3.

The letter will outline the efforts made by Riviera residents, through the Homeowners' group, to have the California Water Service consider alternate methods of supplying Riviera water other than building the unsightly above-ground tanks.

The alternatives, which the committees say were ignored by CWS, would be to put the tanks underground, or up on a hill where they would not block Riviera's views. The tanks are located on Paseo de las Estrellas.

According to George Aldrich, chairman of the Homeowners' Water Committee, persons living within 300 feet of the proposed tanks were notified of their coming construction, but the tanks block the view of many residents who live farther away than 300 feet.