

Willd Forces Thomas Into Runoff



VISITING INDUSTRY . . . Posing with Governor Goodwin J. Knight during his visit last week at the National Supply Co. plant here are Attorney Donald Armstrong, left, and Torrance's pioneer businessman, Sam Levy. Governor Knight visited here during a windup campaign tour last Thursday.

Other Runoffs Due in November

California got back to the two-party system of voting a primary election Tuesday and Torrance went along.

While the voters of the state were setting up runoff elections for governor, lieutenant governor, senators, and congressmen, Torrance area voters split along party lines and send everyone but Sheriff Biscailuz into a November election.

Upset of the day was being credited to John Willd, young Torrance attorney who forced Assemblyman Vincent Thomas into his first runoff in November by capturing the Republican party nomination handily.

On the other hand, strict party line balloting was evident in other parts of the ballot. Democrat Richard Graves averaged less than four Republican votes per precinct in the 103 precincts tabulated here.

Torrance City Precinct 29 gave the Democrat 11 votes. All others, which included Lonita, Shoestring Strip, Keystone, most of Rolling Hills, and the Victor Tract, gave him less than 10 votes each.

"This business of putting the

Less Than Half Vote

Less than 50 per cent of Torrance's 18,246 registered voters put in an appearance at the polls to vote in Tuesday's primaries.

Between 8500 and 9000 votes were registered: From Torrance.

Party label on the ballot is going to put the old expert predictors out of business," one precinct captain remarked at the City Hall in the wee small hours yesterday.

The last ballots were turned in to the City Hall here at 6:25 a.m. yesterday.

Breakdown of the voting here shows the following total votes cast for Governor, Congressman, and Assemblyman. The totals are unofficial.

GOVERNOR	
Democrat	
King	3313
Graves	3897
Republican	
King	4653
Graves	349

CONGRESS	
Democrat	
King	6284
Finch	1323
Republican	

Man Dies In Collapse of Oil Derrick

A San Pedro man was killed and his co-worker severely injured Tuesday when a 122-foot oil derrick on which they were working in Harbor City, jacked, lifted and crashed to the ground.

Dead is Raymond Marbury, 40, San Pedro, Hubert McCracken, 30, of Long Beach was injured in the fall.

The two men were clinging to the steel derrick about 75 feet up when it fell to the south and the top section bent back northwards. Marbury rode the derrick down and was found among the tangled girders. McCracken fell to one side.

The rig, located at Lonita Blvd. and Normandie Ave., owned by the Ring Oil Co., was being dismantled so the well could be redrilled. Cause of the collapse is unknown, according to police.

ASSEMBLY

Democrat	
Thomas	5320
Rawls	845
Willd	938

REPUBLICAN

Democrat	
Thomas	1074
Willd	2218

Late yesterday afternoon, Assemblyman Vincent Thomas conceded that "like all the other candidates, I'm in the November election."

With nearly all precincts reported in, Thomas had a comfortable lead for the Democratic nomination while Willd had put a sizeable margin between him and Thomas for the Republican nod.

ASSEMBLY

Democrat	
Thomas	14,168
Rawls	2,386
Willd	791

REPUBLICAN

Democrat	
Thomas	2,904
Willd	4,286

At the same time, a repetition of the November, 1952, battle between Congressman Cecil King and his Republican opponent Robert Finch, was assured with the tabulation late yesterday of nearly all of the 17th Congressional District votes:

CONGRESS	
683 Precincts out of 867	
Democrat	
King	41,494
Finch	8,816

Retreat Set For Nativity Parish Boys

Men of the Holy Name Society of the Nativity Catholic Church will sponsor a one day retreat for all Catholic boys of the parish in the 5th, 6th 7th, and 8th grades on Saturday, June 12. Brother Joseph Hoffman of the Serra High School staff will conduct the retreat which will be held in the Nativity Catholic Church.

On the following day, Sunday, June 13, the Holy Name men will present a Father and Son breakfast for all men of the parish and their sons at the parish hall immediately following the 8 o'clock mass. The breakfast will feature tasty hot cakes and sausages with all the trimmings.

Main event of the program following the breakfast will be a talk by Los Angeles Ram football star Jack Dwyer and showing of the action-packed movie "Ram Highlights of 1953." A variety of athletic awards also will be presented to Nativity School boys attending the breakfast.

City To Get \$113,000 In Gas Funds

Torrance is due to receive \$113,260.42 as its share of the year's state gasoline tax revenues, City Manager George Stevens announced yesterday.

The apportionment is the equivalent of five-eighths of a cent per gallon out of the gasoline taxes paid by highway users and is made by the State Division of Highways on the basis of official population figures.

This money is distinct from the funds expended on state highways within the cities, Stevens said. The money is for expenditure on city-administered streets off the State Highway System. At least 60 per cent must be spent on streets in the major street system, up to 40 per cent may be spent for maintenance of any city streets.

Large Plants Say No Jobs

Industrial relations supervisors at four major plants in the area told the Herald yesterday that "no jobs are available for high school students or graduates at this time."

D. M. Sowle of National Supply Co., Alex Bero of Dow Chemical, J. H. Prior of Shell Chemical, and Tommy Thompson, manager of General Petroleum said that although each of their companies had in the past employed high school students, they could not do so now because of existing lay-off lists.

"There are three times as many applicants as jobs," Sowle said, and statements by the other executives gave a similar dim outlook on employment situation.

Birth, Illness Keep The Rev. Bello on Run

Rev. Arthur E. Bello, pastor of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, is going from hospital to hospital this week visiting his wife and tiny newborn son at Good Samaritan and another 5-year-old son, Andrew, at Children's Hospital.

The new addition to the family, of 1230 Acacia Ave., arrived at 2 o'clock Tuesday morning, seven weeks ahead of schedule. Hospital nurses rushed him into an incubator immediately after birth without the customary weighing, but estimated that he tips the scales at somewhere between 4 and 5 pounds.

He has been named Peter Lee and will be kept at the hospital until he has gained a normal weight. Mother is expected home at the end of the week.

Little Andy was rushed to the hospital Sunday, where he underwent surgery for intestinal disorders. The Bellos also have a 7-year-old, Jonathan.

LOCAL SHOP OWNER INJURED IN CRASH

Back to work after 13 stitches were taken in a forehead cut he suffered following an auto accident Sunday evening is James Gibbs, owner of Gibbs' Shoe Repair on Post Ave.

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Fire Causes Oil Derrick To Collapse

(Photo on Page 25)

Fire which began in the grass climaxed in the crashing fall of a flaming wooden oil derrick Tuesday, in the old Torrance oil field.

Firemen battled the flames for four hours. The fire broke out on property near Pennsylvania Ave. and 235th St. owned by William Davis.

The wooden derrick caught fire and toppled over, but none was hurt when it fell. Damage of \$3500 to equipment near a well was reported, even though firemen prevented spread of the flames to other nearby installations.

Cause of the grass fire was not determined.

McVey Chosen Grand Knight, Burch Deputy

The Knights of Columbus chose John F. McVey, of 920 Kornblum Ave., as Grand Knight Monday and Dick Burch, 5320 Palos Verdes Dr., Deputy Grand Knight after spirited campaigns.

Each was elected by a two-to-one majority. McVey, 33, a graduate of The Citadel in South



JOHN F. McVEY
New Knights Leader

Carolina, is employed as a structural engineer by the Dresser-Stacy Division of Dresser Industries. He replaces outgoing Grand Knight Ed Conrad, who was elected as three-year trustee.

Burch, 25, is a graduate of Redondo Union High School and proprietor of the Dick Burch Mobilgas Station. Other new officers are Dick Wurm, chancellor; Leo Rolly, Warden; Vincent Weigel, recording secretary; Pete Beiting, treasurer; Herman Parr, advocate; Charles La Chance, inside guard; and John Laret, outside guard.

John Hill was elected to fill an unexpired term as one-year trustee and others who were named trustees are Burch, Heine Miller, Lyle O'Hara and Conrad. Grand Knight McVey is automatically a trustee as provided in the by-laws.

Car Zooms Over Rails, Man Unhurt

Escaping with minor injuries after his '49 convertible zoomed into the railroad trestle at 190th St. and dropped 20 ft. on the other side early Monday morning was William Walter Howe, 23, of 5129 W. 117th St., Inglewood.

The accident occurred about 2 a.m. as the Electronic Technical Institute student crossed Hawthorne Blvd. on 190th St. He was taken to Harbor General Hospital via South Bay Ambulance and released shortly after. Officers investigating the accident were H. Fisher and W. Nitz.

Largest High School Class To Graduate Here Tonight

COMMENCEMENT RITES FOR CLASS OF '54 TOLD

With the theme "Through the Years," the Torrance High School class of 1954 will be graduated Thursday, June 10, in Commencement exercises to begin at 8:15 p.m. on the school football field.

Following is the program of events for Commencement:

- Processional "Pomp and Circumstance" Elgar
- "March of the Priests" Mendelssohn
- Torrance High School Band
- Mr. John M. Baum, Directing
- Salute to the Flag Bob Hopkins, Directing
- "The Star Spangled Banner" Key
- Invocation The Reverend Gene Gehres, Methodist Church
- "The Recessional" DeKoven and Kipling
- Bob Moon, Speaking
- Senior Mixed Chorus
- Accompanied by Adele Curtiss
- Commencement Presentation:
- Theme "Through the Years"
- Past Claire Bentwood
- Present Greg Jenkins
- Future Ignacia Vidal
- Summary Bob Hopkins
- Class Song: "You'll Never Walk Alone"
- Senior Mixed Chorus

- resentation of Class of 1954 Mr. W. Bruce Magner, Jr.
- Acceptance of Candidates Dr. J. H. Hull
- Presentation of Diplomas Mrs. Grace Wright
- Presentation of Evening Division
- Diplomas Dr. Marshall R. Crawshaw
- Alma Mater Bob Scarborough, Directing
- Benediction The Reverend Homer H. Miller, Hope Evangelical Church
- Recessional "Pomp and Circumstance" Elgar
- "March of the Priests" Mendelssohn

'Desert Song' to Be Staged After Current Civic Musical

With rehearsals for the comedy group on Tuesday or Thursday evening at Redondo High School, "Knickerbocker Holiday" now in full swing for the July 9 opening, the South Bay Civic Light Opera Association has revealed that Sigmund Romberg's classic "Desert Song" has been chosen as the group's next production.

The group, which is composed of talented South Bay area singers, actors and dancers, will stage the Kurt Weill-Maxwell Anderson musical "Knickerbocker Holiday" in the Redondo Union High School Auditorium starting July 9 for a five-night run over two weekends. Tickets can be obtained from any member of the organization, according to Melville Tully, musical director.

Fall Showing Set
Tully revealed that arrangements have been made to stage "Desert Song" in early fall. Those who would like to try for parts in the famous operetta should attend a rehearsal of the New Amsterdam.

Those who have appeared with the group have the best chance of obtaining roles in forthcoming shows, Britain explained. It is not too late to join the cast of "Knickerbocker Holiday." The director stated that there are chorus parts open for men to be used as soldiers in the comedy's heralded marching number "To War!"

Large Audience Seen
Tully anticipates a large audience for the first staging of "Knickerbocker Holiday" in the Harbor area.

The comedy, a musical history of the foibles and fables of early New York, placed into the musical language of America the classic "September Song," sung in the show by Peter Stuyvesarts in the famous operetta, should attend a rehearsal of the New Amsterdam.



MOST PECULIAR . . . The Mad Hatter of Marineland, Tommy Tucker (a seal) casually plants a kiss on the cheek of Virginia Taylor, 11, a candidate for "Alice in Marineland" honor as Nancy Naumann, 13, left and Explorer Scout James Watson, 17, look on. Watson will be one of the judges in the contest, which will be held June 21 at the Marineland site on Portuguese Bend.



SMALL 'SENIORS' . . . Getting into the graduation act this week are Donna Hatten, 820 Maple St., and Pat Kerber, 824 Teri Ave., who will be among 13 Torrance Co-operative Nursery School tots getting certificates of achievement at commencement exercises this morning. Other little ones "graduating" from nursery school into kindergarten will be Peggy Ackerman, Arthur Baxter, Karal Boulton, Tommy Evans, Timmy Ferguson, Patty Hardinghaus, Arline Hopkins, Cheri Janasik, Susie Moore, Paul Rouson, and Bonnie Schmidt. After the ceremonies kids and their parents will picnic at Lonita Park.

June 21 Set For Judging Of 'Alice'

Finalists in the "Alice in Wonderland" contest will compete at the Marineland of the Pacific site in Portuguese Bend on June 21 for honors and valuable prizes, including a complete wardrobe of California togs, before a distinguished panel of judges, according to Ray W. Smith, vice-president and general manager of Oceanarium, Inc.

These judges include Supervisor Burton W. Chace, Walt Disney animator Milt Kahl; diving champ and TWA stewardess Lucille Lineiewicz; coastward Guard Chief Michael Luna, stationed at Marineland-adjacent Point Vicente and Explorer Scout James Watson, 17.

The latter and a couple of "Alice" contestants, Virginia Taylor, 11, and Nancy Naumann, 13, this week made the acquaintance of the "Mad Hatter of Marineland." In private life he's Tommy Tucker, one of Captain Harold Winston's famed performing seals, Captain Winston, whose father was the first man in America to train seals, has travelled twice around the world with his sea lion family, who've performed in every phase of how business. Tommy Tucker, alone, has appeared in 27 motion pictures.

Youngsters are being entered upon receipt of a recent snapshot, together with data giving name, address, telephone, age, school and grade by Oceanarium, Inc., Portuguese Bend.

"Alice" will reign over all festivities in connection with her wonderland of undersea life to be discovered at the \$3,000,000 Oceanarium project, scheduled to open at an early date.

Three Face Dump Charge

One Torrance resident and two Inglewood men are slated to appear in South Bay Municipal Court tomorrow morning at 9:30 o'clock to answer charges that they violated city dumping ordinance 471 Sunday afternoon.

The three were picked up by police officers when they allegedly used ground about 300 yards east of Hawthorne Blvd. on 190th St. as a dumping site.

John Leslie Murphy, 43, of 640 E. 99th St., Inglewood, was arrested by Sgt. Ted Morris at 2 p.m., while Luke Rufus Croyer, 39, of 2425 W. 175th St., and George Antonio Armijo, 30, of 5322 W. 119th St., Inglewood, were picked up at 3:21 p.m. by officers Piazza and Hartel.

Murphy told Sgt. Morris that a "man" said it was o.k. to dump there.



NEW DIRECTOR . . . D. M. Sowle, superintendent of industrial relations for National Supply Co., has been named Director of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce replacing Don Wagen, who has left Torrance to take up new duties in Pittsburgh, Pa.