



Democrats Plan Business Meet

The Torrance Democrats, Inc. will meet Tuesday, Aug. 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the CIO Hall, 1316 Border Ave., for their regular monthly business meeting.

Plans are underway for a rummage sale to be held Sept. 21 and members have been asked to save their discarded clothes and other articles.

Board Adopts 1955 Budget

The Board of Education Tuesday voted to adopt a 1955 budget calling for expenditures of \$3,517,921 and a general reserve fund budget of \$3,667,921.

The general reserve fund is half what it should be, according to J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, but this is typical of school financing today in California.

Otherwise, the budget is sound, Hull stated.

Information from Robert Plomert, member of the Industries Tax Committee, indicated that Torrance will have an assessed valuation of \$82 million next year, Hull told the Board.

This is an increase of nearly \$15 million over last year's figure of \$67,971,900.

The budget is based on an estimated enrollment of 11,724 students and a total tax rate of about \$3 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

The majority of the funds—\$2,505,230—will be spent for teachers' salaries.

Elks lodge here and is operating under special permission of the state BPOE, Yates reports.

More than 300 members of adjoining Elks lodges are Torrance residents, officials report. Residents belong to lodges in Redondo Beach, San Pedro, Long Beach, and Los Angeles. Gates said a number of these members were transferring to the Torrance unit.

Chartering of the group is expected sometime in 1955.

Building Permits Up \$4,000,000

A \$500,000 building permit for construction of a steel fabricating plant by the Bethlehem Steel Company at 190th St. and Arlington Ave. headed the \$3,279,039 list of permits issued in Torrance during July, Senior Clerk Walter Bradford of the city's building department has announced.

Grade School Windows Used For Targets

Vandals apparently used 82 windows at Gresham Elementary School for target practice last week-end according to Detective Captain Ernie Ashton.

The windows were broken with marble and bolts stolen from a nearby construction job, he said. Slingshots were apparently used to send the missiles through the windows. Many window frames also were broken.

Four youths suspected of having a part in the damage have been turned over to juvenile authorities, Ashton said.

Obscene words and phrases were written on maps in the building, and typewriter ribbons were torn from machines after lewd messages had been typed on them. Nothing was missing, Ashton said, but a great deal of damage and malicious mischief occurred.

False Police Report Denied by Piccirilli

Joe Lewis Piccirilli, 29, of 23630 Pennsylvania Ave., has pleaded not guilty in South Bay Municipal Court to charges that he made a false report to Torrance police on July 23.

Trial was set for Aug. 19. Torrance police claim that Piccirilli reported to them that his car was stolen from his home when in reality, the car had been repossessed by a finance company.

Ex-Gauchos in Army

Three ex-Narbonne High School boys are now taking U. S. Army basic training at Fort Ord.

They are Tom Boyd, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Whitney Boyd of 1924 W. 262nd St.; Duke Blakesley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hollis V. Blakesley of 1850 W. 262nd St.; and Walter Bell, also of Lomita.

A WINNER . . . Martha Swaffer, of 1955 254th St., is all smiles as she prepares to drive off in a 1954 Ford, awarded her as grand prize in a fund raising campaign to help build the Torrance Scout Center. W. E. Walton, left, Chairman of Torrance Scout Center, Inc., and Oscar Maples, operator of the donating agency, look on. Miss Swaffer, who has lived for 19 years in Lomita, did not have a car previously.

Torrance Elks Attract 100 Men

With nearly 100 members already on the rolls, the recently formed BPOE lodge in Torrance expects more than 350 by the time it has been organized a year according to Joseph Yates, chairman of the organizing committee.

The group, which meets each Wednesday evening in the Alan Richard Hall, 1951 W. Carson St., has been organized to form an

HERALD CARRIERS GET IDENTITY CARDS

Distinctive pink identification cards have been issued to Torrance HERALD Carrier Boys to guard against unauthorized persons collecting for the paper throughout the area, it was announced yesterday by Circulation Manager Robert Thompson.

The cards, which were issued to all HERALD carriers yesterday, will be shown by newsboys representing this paper during their collections, Thompson said.

Hearing Set In Car Death

Preliminary hearing has been set for Aug. 10 in Compton Municipal Court for Donald Lee Lambert, 27, of 143 W. 234th St., who is charged with felony manslaughter in the traffic accident April 30 of a school chum, Alfred Royko, 27, of 25064 1/2 Pennsylvania Ave., Lomita.

Lambert said he and Royko, a high school buddy, were celebrating their reunion when the accident occurred. Lambert's car, with Royko as passenger, crashed into the rear of a motor grader on S. Figueroa St. near Ocean Ave. and Royko was killed.

... Air Trip

(Continued From Page 1)

and some bumpy weather but contacted the weather ship with no trouble and landed at Prestwick on schedule. Two-and-a-half hours later, they were in London.

Flight Conditions Good

Wentworth writes that flight conditions over the Atlantic are excellent, with complete weather service, radio beacons and all other flight assistance furnished. He believes that such flights are less hazardous than continental flights, since they are in constant touch with radio beacons, weather ships and airfields all the way. Should they fail to make a routine report, rescue squadrons would be after them within the hour, he says.

The pair will aim their plane for Frankfurt, Germany, then Rome and various Mediterranean countries next.

BEST UNDER WATER

Beech wood decays rapidly when exposed to the air but lasts well under water. It is used extensively for piling and in the construction of dams.

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