



WHITE HATS FOR THE POLICE . . . Traffic Sgt. Bill Evans adjust Officer Don Nash's new white hat, which will be standard equipment for members of the Torrance Police Traffic Division. The caps will allow drivers to see the officers better, particularly at night. The caps were inspired by the recent injury of Officer A. L. Jackson.

White Hats, Motorcycles Added To Traffic Division of Police

Torrance citizens this week viewed two new features of the police traffic division—new white hats worn by the officers, and motorcycle policemen, absent from the city since 1938.

Since the policemen wear dark uniforms, the white hats allow drivers to see the officers better. It was inspired by the recent injury of Officer A. L. Jackson in a traffic accident. White hats were adopted by the Los Angeles Police Department some time ago.

At the present time, some sort of plastic helmets to protect officers' heads are also considered, according to Traffic Sgt. Bill Evans.

Motorcycles to Return
Motorcycle, abandoned by the police department about 1938, will again be seen on Torrance streets. Despite hazards to the policemen, traffic congestion makes them more useful than cars at times, Evans said. Motorcycle officers will probably wear uniforms sim-

Bad Drivers Headed for Booby Hatch

If you violate traffic laws you may be sicker than you think. Psychologists state that motorists who employ bad driving manners, including right-of-way snatching, unsafe passing and weaving from lane to lane, may be showing symptoms of mental illness.

Turning to the records, California Highway Patrol statisticians have determined that, month by month, more than one-fourth of all accidents on highways in unincorporated areas of the state are caused by these same violations.

In commenting on this fact, Highway Patrol Commissioner B. R. Caldwell observed that whether or not these drivers are mentally ill, the overall problem of traffic violations and traffic violators is a social illness of the first magnitude.

"Enforcement officers who frequently see these dangerous acts naturally wonder about the soundness of reasoning of some motorists.

"It may indicate mental illness when a driver cuts sharply in front of another vehicle at high speed, or when he attempts to pass without sufficient clearance of this fact, we are certain. Such actions indicate an extreme lack of judgment and social responsibility and are viewed with extreme disfavor by law enforcement personnel," Caldwell declared.

Sacramento Report

Bar Owners May Be Responsible For Injuries Patrons Suffer

By CHARLES EDWARD CHAPEL
Member of the Assembly
46th District, California
State Legislature

Bar Owners Responsible
In a recent case called "Cole vs. Van Stone," brought up to the California State Supreme Court, the widow of a man who became intoxicated in a bar, engaged in a fight and died as a result of the fight, brought an action against the owner of the bar. The Supreme Court of California decided, as a matter of law, that there would be a liability on the part of the owners of the bar if (as charged in the case) the owners had knowledge that the customer became quarrelsome under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

This case is important far beyond the facts of the specific case, that is, a man getting drunk in a bar, fighting another person, and dying as a result of the fight. The case is important because in the future this case opens the door in many personal injury, or death actions, simply because the person who supplies the liquor (that is, a bottle shop owner, a bar owner, or perhaps even a private citizen who does not own a bar or a bottle shop) to a person who becomes injured or who dies, may suffer criminal and civil liability. Merely the cost of defending a legal action of this nature could be so expensive that it might bankrupt a small bar or bottle shop owner.

The Illinois Law
I am not a lawyer but it is my understanding that in the State of Illinois there is a law requiring bar owners to carry insurance protecting them against damage suits by persons injured as a result of intoxication, or the families of

such persons. Such insurance is very expensive. It is not now required in California.

Watering the Whiskey
Owners of ordinary bars sometimes water the liquor, but if the inspectors from the State Board of Equalization catch them with open bottles below proof, that is obviously diluted.

Radiation Detection Group Set

Establishment of a Disaster Radiological Service to detect radiation contaminated areas as a part of the County's Disaster Relief Authority was authorized by the County Board of Supervisors. Named to head the Service was the County's Air Pollution Control District Director Gordon Larson.

Larson will have the responsibility of setting up mobile laboratories and the training and direction of research personnel in the use of radiation detection equipment in the event of an atomic or H-bomb attack, according to Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

Bank Merger Plan Dropped

Discussions looking toward a possible consolidation of California Bank, Los Angeles, and Bank of California N. A. and Crocker First National Bank, both of San Francisco, have been discontinued, according to an announcement issued yesterday.

The announcement was made in a joint statement by Frank L. King, president of California Bank, Elliott McAllister, president of Bank of California N. A. and William W. Crocker, chairman of the board of Crocker First National Bank.

It stated that a thorough exploration of all factors involved had failed to develop any mutually satisfactory plan of consolidation.

Bixby Slough Storm Drain Project Nears Bid Stage

Early construction of the Bixby Slough-Downing St. storm drain was indicated yesterday as County Supervisor Burton W. Chace disclosed that bids to construct the \$797,600 project will be advertised next month.

The drain will form the first step in converting Bixby Slough—a dangerous swamp that has claimed the lives of many Harbor district children—into a recreational area that will be a civic asset for the entire community, Chace said.

The Fourth District Supervisor said that final information for the plans and specifications to construct the drain had been received July 23 at the office of H. E. Hedger, chief engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, from the Los Angeles City Engineer's office.

"I have been assured that a high priority has been assigned to processing these plans so that construction can get under way as soon as possible," Chace declared. He added that State funds to develop the area as a park are expected.

Route Defined
Route of the drain will run from the southeasterly arm of the slough near Anaheim and I Sts. to the West Basin's northernmost extension near Wilmington and San Pedro Rd. at the Downing St. intersection.

Construction will consist of a weir at the Bixby Slough end of the drain to maintain a constant water level in the slough, and more than 4000 feet of reinforced concrete box drain ranging from 10 to 13 feet in width and 8 to 11 feet in height, Chace said.

In addition, two short sections of drain will be installed under the Pacific Coast Hwy. east of Dodge Ave. and beneath Lomita Blvd. near the Dodge In-

Thieves Seek Food, Drink

Several hungry and thirsty thieves hit Torrance last weekend, leaving a bad-humored Good Humor man, an irate housewife, and a saddened cafe owner.

Thieves who liked the tune, "Little Brown Jug," and ice cream stole a record player and \$50 worth of ice cream from his good humor truck, Charles Harrison, of 910 Del Amo Blvd., told sheriff's deputies.

Twenty-three cases of beer, two boxes of cigars, three boxes of gum, four dozen towels, and \$50 in change taken from Pooky's Cafe, 2253 Pacific Coast Hwy., should offer thieves a chance for a real party, owner Bill Carlson told deputies.

Mrs. Marie Realado, of 4323 Redondo Beach Blvd., told deputies that \$145 worth of meat and \$3 worth of ice cream was taken from a deep freeze in her garage.

STOCKING YARN
One nylon stocking contains about a mile and one quarter of nylon yarn.

AN HONEST THIEF?
Santa Monica, Cal.—The thief who robbed the clothesline of Mrs. Dolores D. Stack didn't know too much about the value of women's clothes. In place of the three pairs of silk panties taken by the robber, there was a \$1 bill attached to the line with clothespin.

FOURTH LARGEST
India's railway system is fourth largest in the world with 34,000 route miles.

the bar can be closed for at least 30 days and the license can be revoked. For this reason, few owners of bars water the liquor.

Night clubs are in an entirely different category in practice, although legally they are under the same laws. Unless you stand over the bartender and watch him pour the drinks, he may pour in just enough to give the drink a slight smell, but the average night-club drink is so weak it would not hurt a Girl Scout. This is a violation of the State law, but perhaps it is in the interests of safety on the highway. What do you think?

Lincoln's Idea of Duty
When I was a very small boy in Iowa, the teachers in the public schools taught us history and patriotism in the same breath. There were men, old men to be sure, but still men, who had seen and heard Abraham Lincoln, who lived, a nd moved, and voted in my home town of Manchester, Ia., and the cemetery was full of men and boys who had volunteered to save the Union and free the slaves at the call of Abraham

Lincoln. Therefore, I was raised to believe with all my heart, all my mind, and all my body that I should respect, defend and revere the teachings of this man who ranked with us just below the Holy Trinity. Here is what the blessed Lincoln said about his idea of duty as a public official:

"If I were to try and read, much less answer, all the attacks made on me, this shop might as well be closed for any other business. I do the very best I know how—the very best I can, and I mean to keep doing so until the end.

"If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything.

"If the end brings me out wrong, then ten angels swearing I was right would make no difference."

Make Your Living Panning Gold
The price of gold is \$35 a fine ounce. Gold is still so plentiful in the Mother Lode country of California that any amateur can make an average of \$7 per day at least, if he keeps at it long enough and uses ordinary judgment. However, commercial gold mining has declined so much that California now ranks behind South Dakota and Utah, principally because of labor costs. The price of gold has remained fixed for many years, but wages and other costs have climbed.

Happy Wedding Bells
Governor Goodwin J. Knight and Mrs. Virginia Carlson were married many days ago. They came to the wedding of Dorothy and me in our Holy Faith Episcopal Church in Inglewood and they were married in the Episcopal Church of Our Saviour in Beverly Hills. We have known "Goodie" and Virginia for a long time and know that the readers of this column will help us to ring out the merry marriage bells and wish them long life and happiness.

Get Out Vote Drive Opened

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn this week was named chairman of a county-wide "get out the vote" campaign for the Nov. 2 general elections by his colleagues on the Board of Supervisors.

"I sincerely urge all eligible persons regardless of political convictions or party to register before the Sept. 9 deadline and to vote in the general election," Supervisor Hahn declared.

Concurrent with naming Supervisor Hahn to chair the campaign, the Board of Supervisors designated Aug. 15 through 21 as Voters Registration Week.

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