



(Herald Photo)

IN AND OUT . . . Postal workers are busy loading and unloading outgoing and incoming mail at the Torrance Armory. More than 100 extra employees aid the regular 140 postal workers here in getting out the Christmas mail. On the peak day, 315 sacks of mail were sent out.



(Herald Photo)

SEASON'S GREETINGS . . . Employees handle some of the cards which are coming in record numbers. On three days last week, the total number of outgoing cards topped 140,000, with an even greater volume expected today. All postal facilities are used to the limit during Christmas.



(Herald Photo)

NEVER-ENDING TASK . . . Sorting out the greeting cards and letters seems like a never-ending task to the workers who handle them. Here, a long row of employees place the mail in slots from which they will be distributed to postmen. Mail here is running about 10 per cent heavier than 1951.



(Herald Photo)

WHY WRAP PACKAGES? . . . Sandy Fredrickson shows why postal workers demand that packages be wrapped securely. This package mailed from Germany, contains two broken steins and bent metal dishes. The heavy volume of yuletide mail is handled quickly and sometimes roughly.

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CIVIC, VETERANS GROUPS SUPPORTING BATTLE FOR MUNICIPAL COURT HERE

Church Groups, Unions Support Demands for Torrance Court

Resolutions from many of Torrance leading civic organizations pledging their support for establishment of a municipal court in Torrance began pouring into the city clerk's office last week, it was reported Saturday by Jack Hallinger, deputy city clerk.

Action of the organizations to support the campaign to establish a court here follows requests by the Court Steering Committee for a court here in the matter before the County Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, in a letter recently to Chamber of Commerce President Paul Loranger, stated that he favored the establishment of a court in Torrance and would support the matter when it came before the board.

Although Supervisor Burton W. Chace has not pledged himself formally to the establishment of a court here, his office has reported unofficially that he will bring the matter before the Supervisors at an early date.

Veterans groups backing the city's demands for a court here include the Bert S. Crossland Post of the American Legion, Ladies Auxiliary to Post 3251 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Legion of Guardsmen Post 7.

Service clubs include the Civitan Club, Kiwanis Club, Lionsess Club, Exchange Club, Pilot Club, Business and Professional Women's Club, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the Optimist Club.

Other groups endorsing the demands for a new court in Torrance, civic center site at Maple Ave. and Torrance Blvd. include General Petroleum Unit of Local 1519, Organization of Chemical and Atomic Workers, CIO; Government and Civic Employees Organization Committee, CIO Local 1155; Loyal Order of Moose No. 785; North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn.; United Steelworkers of America Local 1414; Nativity Mothers Club; Torrance-Lomita Realty Board; and the Walteria Parent-Teachers Assn.

All of the resolutions will be presented to the City Council which has indicated that it will send them on to the Board of Supervisors.

Torrance has been without a court since the inferior courts reorganization was ordered by the Legislature several years ago. At that time the Torrance court was closed down and the city's judicial affairs have been handled by the South Bay Municipal Court on the north Redondo city limits.

According to Walter Bradford, senior clerk at the city engineer's office, permits for the first half of the month were only \$520,000, far below average, bringing the year's total to about \$42,200,000. Last year's final building figures were \$45,086,552.

Had it not been for the strike, the city probably would have topped this figure, officials said. It is very doubtful that last year's record can be broken now, however.

A \$200,000 permit for a new welding aisle at the new Bethlehem Steel plant at 2100 W. 190th St., and a \$183,000 permit for the new St. Catherine Labourer Church at 3510 Redondo Beach Blvd., furnished the major portion of the month's totals.

Reservations can still be made for the breakfast by calling the Chamber of Commerce at FA 8-2814. The 7:30 a.m. meeting will adjourn promptly at 8:30, Schwab promises.

Postal Receipts Up 40 Per Cent

If Santa thinks he has troubles, he ought to take a look at the postman. Christmas mail in Torrance is running the heaviest ever—a whopping 40.3 per cent above last year's record receipts—Postmaster Clara Conner said Saturday. Postal officials are expecting the peak of the Christmas mail today as late-comers get their packages and cards in the mail.

Three days already have broken the record of 132,000 letters handled through the Torrance Post Office and its two stations last year. More than 140,000 letters have passed through Torrance on three separate days so far, but even these records are expected to fall today, Mrs. Conner said. The daily average for the year is about 25,000, she said.

About 100 additional employees have been hired to assist the present 140 workers in sorting and sending the Christmas mail. Only veterans have been hired, Mrs. Conner said. Since many find that assisting Santa is a harder job than they thought, there is some turnover, she declared.

The Torrance National Guard Armory has been taken over by the Post Office for use in sending and receiving packages and letters. On the peak day last week, 315 sacks of outgoing mail left the Armory, while the previous record has been 278. Even Mrs. Conner's office has been taken over as a registered mail room.

A much heavier load of mail bound for destinations overseas was reported by postal workers this year.

The usual quota of broken and torn packages on which the labels have come off also have been handled by the local post office, Mrs. Conner said. Every effort is made to find the owner of packages with missing labels, she said.

"People think we are nosy when we ask them what is in their packages," Mrs. Conner declared. "We don't care what they send. We only want to know if there is something breakable. We had one broken bottle of shampoo this week which ruined several other packages."

"They sometimes think we are unreasonable when we refuse to accept poorly wrapped packages. We have one girl who does nothing but wrap packages which have come apart. A poorly wrapped package is often a package in which the contents get broken."

One woman has been assigned to the lobby of the post office to take care of incoming letters and sort them before they are mailed. This saves the work of 10 persons, Mrs. Conner said.

Another man is stationed on the lawn of the post office to take care of packages to be mailed.

Take Bulbs From Tree

Mrs. Albert Yackle, of 5502 Palos Verdes Blvd., reported to police Friday that vandals stole decorative bulbs from an outdoor Christmas tree at her home Thursday night.



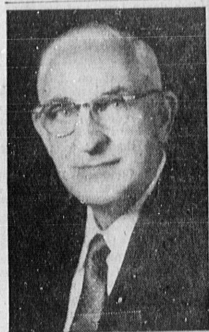
(Herald Photo)

HERALD SLOGAN WINNER . . . Norman Ray Reese, seventh grader at Madrona Elementary School, beams after receiving the first-place award in the HERALD-sponsored cleanup slogan contest. HERALD Publisher King Williams presented Norman with a \$25 Savings Bond. Norman's slogan: Place the Litter—Don't Litter the Place.



(Herald Photo)

CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY . . . Paul Loranger (left) owner of Paul's Chevrolet and president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, hands out checks to the top runners-up in the cleanup slogan contest. On the left is Cappy Phillips who won \$3 cash; in the middle is Howard A. Phillips, who received \$5 cash; and receiving a \$10 check from Loranger is Danny Kirks.



SAM LEVY
General Chairman



C. C. MORGAN
Industrial Chairman

Levy to Head YMCA Fund Drive for '56

Appointment of Sam Levy, pioneer Torrance merchant and civic leader, to serve as general chairman of the 1956 YMCA Sustaining Membership campaign was announced here Saturday by Ralph Morris, president of the YMCA board of managers.

Levy, who has been a strong supporter of YMCA activities in Torrance for many years, will have the responsibility of organizing a campaign to raise funds to meet the local YMCA budget of approximately \$19,000, Morris said.

Plans to get the campaign under way shortly after the first of the year were announced immediately by the new general chairman along with the appointment of top division leaders for the campaign.

C. C. Morgan, works manager of the Columbia-Geneva plant here, will head the industry division; Dr. John W. Beeman was named to head the professional division; Eddie Reinhold, owner of Gary's Jewelers, will take charge of the business division; and Mrs. Edward Schwartz will be field organization chairman.

"If Torrance YMCA is to continue to serve the thousands of Torrance area boys and girls as it has been doing, the money

must be provided for the 1956 budget," Levy stated.

The proposed budget for 1956 provided for a trained, full time executive secretary, a part time program assistant, and a full time girl in the office.

"With such leadership, there will be increased coverage of the field and an enriched program for our youth," Levy said.

The Torrance YMCA has been operating on a reduced budget during 1955 because less than \$9000 was raised to provide a budget for the year. The program has been conducted by a part time director who will be retained in the new budget.

During 1955, the YMCA enrolled about 1000 Torrance area boys and girls in its regular program. These include the members of the five Y Indian Guide groups, four Gray-Y clubs, the Junior Hi-Y, Hi-Y, Tri-Hi-Y, the learn-to-swim program, and

(Continued on Page 2)

Girls' Attacker Still at Large

Police still are looking for Paul T. Jones, 19, of 1410 W. 216th St., who broke away from officers last week after being arrested with two other youths on forcible rape charges.

Jones, Leslie D. Fields, 19, of 1620 W. 219th St., and a 16-year-old Torrance boy were apprehended by officers Monday afternoon at a house on W. 238th St., where they allegedly held two Gardena girls captive for three hours and raped them.

All three bolted arrest at the scene of the assault, but the two others were captured shortly afterwards.

The two girls, one 13 and the other 15, told police they were picked up by the youths Monday morning, then held from noon to 3 p.m. in the house and

repeatedly attacked. A woman heard the screams of the girls and called police, who arrived just when the boys were emerging from the house.

Police say one local resident came to the station Saturday morning and wanted authorities to send out a posse after Jones.

Meanwhile another in a series of recent sex crimes was possibly averted here Thursday morning. A 10-year-old Torrance girl told police she was walking on Crenshaw Blvd., between Torrance Blvd. and El Dorado St., when a man pulled up beside her and offered her candy if she would get in his car.

She ran from the man and later told police he was driving an old model station wagon.

News Index

- Torrance's women are busy making plans for an event-filled Yuletide season, Society Editor Edna Cloyd reports on pages 7 and 8 of today's HERALD.
- Housewives of today would be horrified at the hours she used to keep, a 95-year-old Torrance woman reports, in a story on page 2.
- Other features are as follows:
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