

Chief Reverses Stand, Promotes Bypassed Firemen

ARMY'S CHIEF ENGINEER INSPECTS

FLOOD CONTROL CHANNEL AREAS

The Only Paper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

Torrance Herald

Phone
FA 8-4000

Published Monday and Thursday—
Entered as second class matter Jan. 30, 1914, at postoffice, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

42nd Year—No. 13

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1956

CIRCULATION OFFICE FA 8-4004

10¢ per copy

12 PAGES

As Deadline Nears

Seven Seeking Council Posts

Politics on the local level will reach at least one conclusion this week as candidates for the April municipal elections must make their intentions known by noon next Thursday.

A total of seven have filed nomination papers so far

for one of the three Council seats which will be at stake in the election. Councilmen whose terms expire include Nicholas O. Draie, Victor E. Benstead, Jr., and Mervin M. Schwab. Draie has filed for re-election to his third term, Schwab has said that he will not be a candidate, and Benstead took out nominating papers just before closing time Friday, indicating that he will be a candidate for re-election.

Others File

Others who filed late last week include Francis W. Burk, of

5104 Zakon, a candidate two years ago; Frank Frohnhoefer, of 1116 Hickory Ave.; and Robert B. Jahn, 440 Via Linda Vista, a contractor and member of the city's Airport Commission.

Petitions have been taken out but not returned by John W. Kesson, 2015 W. 182nd St., president of the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn.; William E. King, Jr., 1757 Greenwood Ave., advertising salesman for an Inglewood newspaper; Norma Ritter, 1305 Florwood Ave., Iadene Chamberlain, secretary to City Manager George Stevens now on 90-day leave of absence; and Jack E. White, candidate in 1952 and again in 1954.

More Expected

Other names are being heard throughout the city as possible candidates, and Deputy City Clerk I. J. Hallanger, sitting in for City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, who is ill, expects a run on the nominating petitions today and tomorrow as the candidates are lined up for the April 10 election.

Deadline for returning nomination papers to the City Clerk's office will be noon next Thursday, Feb. 16. Nominations received after the deadline will not be qualified for the ballot, Hallanger reports.

No other city offices are at stake in the election although nine ballot propositions will appear offering charter amendments to the voters for approval.

A complete review of all of the propositions will be made by HERALD editors prior to the election.

Ruiz Will Face Trial For Attacks

Sylvester Ruiz, 25, who is charged with forcibly attacking two sisters here Jan. 27, is slated for court trial on the counts Feb. 20 in Long Beach.

Ruiz and a 17-year-old boy, both from Los Angeles, were apprehended early this month for attacking two Torrance sisters, one 13, the other 15. The four met at a local movie house for a date early in the evening of Jan. 27, then went to the intersection of 203rd St. and Arlington Ave., to watch a fight.

The older girl allegedly was attacked by Ruiz there, and the younger sister later was raped by both Ruiz and the boy in an abandoned street car at the old Pacific Electric lot at Crenshaw Blvd. and Dominguez St. The boy was taken to Juvenile Hall, following the attacks, for disposition.



THE OTHER DRIVER DIED . . . Although truck driver Ernest William Howard, 30, employe of a gravel company, died when his truck smashed into this hardtop at Figueroa and 174th St. early Friday, the driver of this car, Josh M. Garrett, 36, of Los Angeles escaped suffered only shock and head injuries, described as not serious. His car was completely demolished and the heavy gravel truck jack-knifed and flipped over, dumping gravel over the intersection.

Protests By Union Win Out

Fire Chief J. J. Benner bowed to the protests of the International Association of Fire Fighters at a special Council meeting Thursday night and recommended the promotion of two previously bypassed firemen to settle a controversy which had threatened to rock the city's fire department.

Speaking at the meeting called for the purpose of settling the promotion issue brought up by the firemen, Benner said he would abide by the Council's expressed desire to see the two men promoted and would abide by all other policies set by the Council.

List Expires

Promoted to captains as a result of the action were Engineers B. C. Sionecker and Milton Langum. The promotions previously announced by Benner for Engineers John Agapito and D. C. Minor were set aside by the Council. The eligible list expires tomorrow.

The Council had heard the protests of firemen at two previous meetings when representatives of the local department; Tullio J. Rizzo, vice president, southern district, Federated Fire Fighters of California; and Cecil O. Johnson, secretary, treasurer of the San Pedro-Wilmington Central Labor Council, had appeared on behalf of Langum and Sionecker.

Pair Bypassed

Promotion of Agapito and Minor had been protested by the firemen and the union representatives on the grounds that Langum and Sionecker had been bypassed for promotion on repeated occasions, in one case seven times.

During the 15-minute meeting Thursday night the Council adopted a new policy statement on Civil Service promotions submitted by City Manager George Stevens and ordered it incorporated into the Civil Service Ordinance.

Under the terms of the new promotion policy, the appointing authority will be given three names from which to choose when making an appointment and he may select any of the three names except that a candidate on the list may not be passed over for promotion more than twice.

Opposed By Draie

Draie opposed the policy stating that he still thought the appointing authority should be required to appoint the top man or present a statement to the Council why he should not be appointed.

An attempt by Mayor Isen to get the policy adopted as an immediate measure before putting it in the ordinance was defeated.

Elks Plan Palsy Meet

Representation from industries, clubs and organizations in this area is urged by the Elks Lodge for their Wednesday night presentation of facts about cerebral palsy at an open meeting at the lodge, 1951 Carson St.

The meeting, which will begin at 8 p. m., is open to any interested parties and will be featured by screening of a special film on CP, an Elks official said.

Since the meeting is expected to attract a number of guests, lodge spokesmen said, they ask that each group send more than two representatives. Reservations may be secured by calling FR 5-2640.

Work Expedited On Storm Drain

Lt. General S. D. Sturgis Jr., chief of the U. S. Army Engineers Corps, made an aerial inspection of the Dominguez Channel as it runs through North Torrance yesterday and reviewed flood damage photographs and reports during a quick trip to the Southland over the week end.

After inspecting the channel and harbor areas yesterday, General Sturgis met with County Flood Control officials and officers of the Southern California Army Engineer Corps to discuss the impact of problems created by the recent heavy storm.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn had asked Col. H. E. Hedger, chief engineer of the County Flood Control District, to conduct General Sturgis on an inspection tour of the channel. He asked specifically that the officer be shown the heavy damage done to the Arlington Ave. and 174th St. crossings of the channel. The General's limited stay in the Southland, however, ruled out a ground inspection of the two heavily damaged areas in north Torrance. He did view them from the air, however.

Drain Expedited

On the same matter, Supervisor Hahn reported Saturday that completion of the Arlington-Glenburn bond issue storm drain in north Torrance should be completed with the next three weeks, barring unforeseen complications.

After making a personal inspection tour of the project in company with Torrance Councilman Nicholas Draie and City Manager George Stevens, Supervisor Hahn requested that this project be expedited to the fullest possible degree for the benefit of the residents of the area.

Main Line In

All of the main line drain on both sections of the project has now been installed and the concrete has been poured on two transition structures at 174th and Glenburn. As soon as the concrete has cured to the proper strength, possibly within the next four or five days, the contractor will begin backfilling the trench at 174th and Glenburn. Resurfacing of the street where it has been torn up for the main drain will follow.

The contractor has been forced to dig out the original backfill soil and replace it with a combination of crushed rock and rock dust in order to obtain the proper degree of compaction in the shortest possible time. This was made necessary because it was not possible to obtain proper compaction of the soil as a result of storm damage to the trench.

Flood control officials assured Supervisor Hahn that everything possible was being done to complete this project at the earliest possible date.

Urges Channel Work

Hahn also urged that Dominguez Channel be cleaned of debris and that long range plans be made for its permanent improvement, with assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers.

Improvement of the lower end of the Channel is being expedited by Supervisor Burton W. Chace, who has been conferring with Los Angeles City Councilman John S. Gibson, Jr., and Harbor Department officials about the situation in those areas.

Construction of a new bridge at Henry Ford Ave. will top the plans for improving the seaward end of the channel. Details of the big span, which may exceed 200 feet in length, may be presented to the Harbor Board this week.

Approval of city authorities of county flood control projects must first be obtained before the county can proceed with the construction, Chace pointed out.

Take Change In Burglary

Burglars got little for their efforts in the Lomita area last week, as about \$150 in change was taken when thieves raided a trailer park, at 23344 Pennsylvania Ave.

Orrin K. Conant, 44, manager of the court, told sheriff's deputies that the burglars entered a laundry house through an unlocked door Wednesday night and pried open several coin boxes.

Man, Trying to Flee Country, Arrested Here

A 20-year-old Redondo, Duane L. Hansen, was taken into custody here Wednesday on charges of passing fictitious checks after he was observed trying to purchase an airline ticket to Mexico at Torrance Airport.

Hansen was arraigned Friday afternoon on the charges. He will appear in South Bay Municipal Court Thursday for preliminary hearing.

Detectives here said airport officials reported they had received a call from Hansen's mother Wednesday telling them of his plans to board a plane. She also told authorities that he had stolen some checks and might be trying to pass the documents.

Police picked him up when airport officials became suspicious of his manner. Local detectives said also that Hansen is wanted by Redondo Beach police on charges of peddling narcotics.

Charges of cashing worthless checks were filed after it was discovered that Hansen had passed four \$50 documents in the area. One of the checks was cashed at a market in Redondo; another at a super market in Manhattan Beach; another at Clark's Market, at Pacific Coast Highway and Hawthorne Blvd., and the fourth at a liquor store in Playa del Rey.

Cecil Smith Rites Today

Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. today for Cecil William Smith, 53, former city inspector, who died suddenly at his home, 3625 Emerald St., Wednesday night.

Mr. Smith died as an appellate court panel of three judges were hearing testimony on his appeal for reinstatement as a city inspector.

A resident of Torrance for more than 33 years, Mr. Smith had been active in various Torrance groups during that time and had worked for the city for several years. He was a member of the Torrance Mounted Police and had ridden with the unit in the Palm Springs parade where they won a ribbon on Feb. 4. The Mounted Police, in uniform, will serve as pallbearers at his services today. He also was a member of the Masonic Lodge and Moose Lodge.

Rev. Milton Sippel, pastor of the First Christian Church of Torrance, will officiate at the 2 p. m. rites today at the Stone and Myers Chapel. Burial will be in Roosevelt Memorial Cemetery.

He leaves his widow, Minnie, a son, Cecil Albert Smith, of 23734 Pennsylvania Ave.; a daughter, Connie Louise Parker, 1608 1/2 Hickory Ave.; and a brother, Paul Smith, of 2830 W. Carson St., all of Torrance; four sisters, Audrey Brooks of Concord, Calif.; Pearl Willes, Alhambra, Calif.; Elizabeth Will, Oklahoma City; and Effie Flagg, El Reno, Okla.

BOY, 3, STRUCK BY AUTO FRIDAY

Michael Ella, 3, of 15809 Crenshaw Blvd., was injured Friday evening when struck by a car on Crenshaw near his home, police said today.

The youngster was taken to Torrance Emergency Medical for treatment after he was hit by a car driven by Irvin E. Taults, 17, of 1824 Martina. Police did not cite Taults.

Psychology Class Open

A new course in psychology is being offered by Torrance Evening High School according to R. E. Collins, principal.

The class will begin this Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 7 p. m. in room 120 at the school. Students working for high school diplomas can take the course for credit.

Instructor of the class will be John Lucas, counselor and student advisor at Torrance High School. The course will deal with the general problems of mental and physical development of the human being from birth to adulthood.

Kuchel to Speak At Lincoln Fete For Harbor GOP

Highlighted by the appearance of U. S. Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel, local Republican party fundraising activities for the 1956 political campaign will kick-off with a Lincoln Day dinner tonight.

Scheduled for 7:30 p. m. at the San Pedro Hacienda Hotel, more than 300 Republicans, Democrats and Independents are expected at the affair which will honor California's junior senator.

Pointing up the national importance of the 17th Congressional District, tonight's dinner marks Sen. Kuchel's second major speech here during the past four months. He was the featured speaker at an Eisenhower birthday dinner last October, when he appeared in the Gardens South west Los Angeles area.

Sen. Kuchel will include in his remarks a discussion of the Eisenhower program, and a first-hand report on all current political activities in the nation's capital.

Jack Drown, Republican finance chairman for the area, revealed that the Lincoln Day Dinner is the district's first major fundraising effort in the 1956 campaign.

The Republican central committee district chairman, Charles Soderstrom, said that tickets for the dinner may be obtained from all members of the central committee and other Republican groups and by calling TErminat 2-5515.

Hahn Orders Details On Road Project

An immediate study of what benefits Los Angeles County will receive from the proposed federal road program was ordered last week by the county board of supervisors on motion of Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

"If the Los Angeles metropolitan area will not receive its proper share of road money under the federal program, steps should be taken to secure the necessary amendments," Hahn declared.

He pointed out that in the past the federal program has been used primarily for the improvement of rural roads, even though the bulk of the taxes collected have come from metropolitan areas.

"Los Angeles County, with the world's greatest concentration of automobiles and some of the most serious traffic problems, now has a road deficiency of more than \$400,000,000. I don't believe it is fair or practical for the people of Los Angeles County not to receive their share of federal money," Hahn continued.

He said that he believed that the Los Angeles County congressional delegation should make certain that the Los Angeles metropolitan area receives its just share of federal road benefits before supporting the federal road program.

NEW TALENT APPEARS ON HERALD NEWS STAFF

HERALD editors this week discovered a hidden talent among the members of its editorial staff. Reporter Ernie Halligan, who joined the staff here two weeks ago, turns out to have talent with pen and ink, and was promptly put to work. His first cartoon contribution appears today on Page 6, and concerns itself with the coming Council elections in April, and is entitled, "The Race is On." More of Ernie's cartoons will probably make their appearance from time to time. It's just one more of the features that you will find each Monday and Thursday morning in the Award Winning HERALD.

TORRANCE Y.M.C.A. 1956 CAMPAIGN

SAM LEVY, General Chairman
RALPH MORRIS, President Y.M.C.A.

GOAL \$17,000.00

DIVISIONS	GOAL	PREVIOUS	TO DAY	TOTAL	TO GET
INDUSTRIAL	10,000	4,535		5,465	
CC. MORGAN, Chr.					
COMMERCIAL	3,000	13,71		16,29	
ED. RAPHAEL, Co. Chr.					
PROFESSIONAL	3,000	4,10		2,590	
DR. JOHN BEEMAN, Chr.					
FIELD	1,000	2,06		794	
MRS. ELIA SCHW					
TOT	17,000	6,522		10,478	

FIRST YMCA REPORT . . . Bob Gossium, loaned by the Metropolitan YMCA to supervise the current support campaign of the Torrance YMCA, chalks up the results of the first report meeting Friday. General Chairman Sam Levy was optimistic about reaching the \$17,000 goal after 38 per cent of it was announced at the first meeting. A second report meeting is scheduled for next Friday noon.