

# Water Oozes Up in Home Area

## Water Flowing In Underground

Several residents of the recently constructed Madrona Square have rear yards that may never need watering. But, they are not as gleeful about the prospects of a perpetually watered lawn as one might think.

The plight of the residents of the 3100 block on Sonoma came to light this week when a number of residents noted that the water was not seeping away after their yards had been sprinkled.

A geologist, who inspected the area Friday on the suggestion of a nurseryman, said the area apparently was receiving subterranean flow of water from nearby homes.

Worst hit are the homes of Glen Keller, 3114 Sonoma, and James Post, 3118 Sonoma. About three other homes next to the Kellers and Posts are receiving some water.

**New Lawn Wet**  
Post said he first noted the condition earlier this week when he asked his wife to taper off on the watering of the new lawn in his back yard. "But I haven't watered it," she answered.

It turned out that the springing Post gave the lawn three weeks before was still on top of the ground.

About that time, the Kellers found that post holes dug in their back yard soon filled with water.

No Broken Pipes  
Dominguez and Torrance Water Co. officials checked the area for broken lines but could find none, and it was finally decided that the water was the result of a subterranean flow.

"We don't know what we are going to do now," Post said. The homes there sit on concrete slabs, and the water is beginning to soak up the walls of the homes in the back yards. Post found a slight dampness in one of the bedrooms occupied by the couple's infant son Friday.

Engineers for the builder and other officials are making a study of the situation.



**CHECKS WATER FLOW . . .** James Post, 3118 Sonoma Ave., check flow of water into hole dug in back yard of neighbor Glen Keller, 3114 Sonoma, as residents become alarmed at the situation. Engineers say improper drainage may be causing water to accumulate in the back yards of half a dozen Sonoma Ave. residents.

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

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**ON PAROLE BOARD . . .**  
Former Nebraska Senator Eva Browning, mother of Frank H. Forester, 1416 Fern Ave., has been appointed to the eight-member U.S. Board of Parole, a full-time job. She succeeds Dorothy McCullough Lee who resigned. The appointment was made by President Eisenhower, and is subject to Senate confirmation.

## Isen Presents Case for City

Paying tribute to the citizens and officials of the city, Mayor Albert Isen presented Torrance's case for the All-American Cities Award jury in Memphis, Tenn., last week.

"Torrance, a balanced city of homes, commerce, and industry, embracing 20 square miles with over 300 miles of streets, has developed in an orderly fashion," he declared.

He paid tribute to the interest of citizens in the development of their city, citing actions of the many civic organizations in various areas of the city. He praised the "discerning leadership" of the newspapers, "dynamic statesmanship" of the City Council, and "professional competency" of the City Manager.

**Planning Praised**  
"The fantastic problems of zoning and planning, guided by a professional planning director, have been intelligently solved by a Citizens' Planning Commission," he told the jury.

"The tremendous growth (exceeding 15,000 new people each year) has taken place without incident. The water system continues to supply both new industries and residents without difficulty and can do so for all time.

**Parks Cited**  
"Parks are set aside for all age groups. The new Civic Center is built for present and future service to the citizens. Public health and sanitation through city-county cooperation is intelligent and orderly.

"Public safety through new police and fire facilities and personnel are Class A. Juvenile delinquency is controlled not only by the high cultural and moral standards of the residents but also by the most completely trained juvenile bureau in the United States.

"Eighty-five per cent of the population own their own homes. The educational attainment of the adults is 12.1 years of school. There are no slums or blighted areas within the city limits. Crime and violence are at an irreducible minimum. There is absolutely no vice.

**Standards High**  
"Educational standards of the local schools are recognized throughout California—a state which ranks 14 per cent higher than the national average."

Torrance is one of 22 cities which is competing for one of the 11 honored places as All-American cities. The results of the judging will not be known until next year. Dr. George Gallup, famed pollster, is foreman of the jury which is selecting the winners.

**Post Office Distribution Center Open**  
A new postal distribution station to handle mail in the western part of Torrance was put in use last week. It is located on Torrance Blvd., near Amie St., and will be opened as a postal substation later.

This is the third postal substation under the Torrance post office. It will be used as the dispersal point for mail to other stations in the city and will serve as headquarters for carriers serving the west and part of the north sections of the city.

Due to the increased population, the new station was built. The main office will continue to be at 1433 Marcella Ave., but only carrier mail for part of the district will be handled there.

Postmaster Clara Conner said public services—stamps, money orders, parcel post, and related things—will begin this month.

Reg Wyatt is superintendent of the new station.



**PRESENTING CITY'S CASE . . .** Mayor Albert Isen, Tuesday, presented the case for Torrance's selection as an All-American City of 1956 to the jury in Memphis, Tenn., which will pick the 11 cities to be so honored. Torrance is one of 22 cities in the contest, which is a feature of the 62nd Annual National Conference on Government. Foreman of the jury is Dr. George Gallup, famed pollster (third from right, back row). Results will be announced early next year.

## Torrance Keeps Leadership in Building Totals

Torrance continued to maintain its lead over comparable Southland cities during 1956 in new construction permits, according to city building officials.

While the city of Los Angeles led new permit valuations with a staggering total of \$404,996,253; Torrance maintained its position ahead of all other Southland cities except San Diego and Long Beach.

**Nears Long Beach**  
The \$45,105,311 total for 1956 was barely beaten by the Long Beach total of \$47,964,510 during the first 10 months of the year, according to the reports. San Diego took a comfortable lead over the two cities with a permit valuation of \$85,312,176.

Nearby cities trailed in new construction during the first 10 months of the year as Gardena, closest to the Torrance figure, led the rest with only \$15,535,150.

**Others Trall**  
Redondo Beach has issued \$10,368,173 in new permits, while Compton, Inglewood, Hermosa Beach, Palos Verdes Estates, El Segundo, and Manhattan Beach have issued less than \$10 million in permits so far this year.

The Torrance figure tops all previous calendar year records, and is estimated to be on the way to \$50 million by the end of December.

**Temperatures**

	High	Low
Sunday	87	46
Monday	72	58
Tuesday	65	47
Wednesday	70	46
Thursday	79	37
Friday	83	39

## Union Services Slated Thursday At EUB Church

Union Thanksgiving services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday morning at the Central Evangelical United Brethren Church. The Rev. Donald Sheiby, associate pastor of the First Methodist Church, will preach the sermon.

Ten churches of Torrance will join for the rites, which are sponsored by the Torrance Ministerial Assn. Rev. Walter Stanton, president of the association, will preside.

The scripture will be read by Rev. Nathan Bond, First Baptist Church, and the prayer will be given by the Rev. Milton Sippel, First Christian Church. Special music will be presented by a trio—Mr. and Mrs. Carl Pisel and Mrs. Irene Hoy—who will sing "Prayer of Thanksgiving."

Proceeds from the collection will go to the American Bible Society.

## City Enjoys Healthy Week

Aside from colds, Torrance has been pretty much disease-free during the past two weeks, according to the Los Angeles County Health Department.

Only three disease victims were reported in the city—one case each of encephalitis, measles, and polio.

Throughout the Torrance health district, only 23 cases of disease were reported. Tuberculosis claimed four victims; epilepsy, hepatitis, and whooping cough, each three; scarlet fever and syphilis, each two; and encephalitis, measles, mumps, rheumatic fever, gonorrhea, salmonella, each one.

## Four Port Youths Held After Chase

Four San Pedro youths were arrested by police here Friday night following a brief chase through the central section of the city.

Edward Fallorina, 23; George McDowell, 21; Antonio Ortega, 18, and Phillip Recary, 20, were jailed on suspicion of auto theft and narcotics violation.

Officers J. E. Davis and K. R. Halbert pursued the quartet along several streets until the car containing the suspects was brought to a halt at Anapola Ave. and El Dorado St.

Police said some of the group had apparent needle marks on their arms.

Fallorina, the driver, admitted that he was not the owner of the auto, but claimed to have borrowed it from a friend.

**Masked Nude Appears Here**  
The masked nude made his third appearance in this area in recent days, as he presented himself, clad only in his birthday suit, to a 47-year-old woman who was mailing a letter at 257th and Eshelman Ave.

The woman told deputies Friday that while she was mailing her letter, she saw a naked man across the street, with his clothes wrapped around his head. He beckoned to her, she said, while she fled toward her home.

The masked nude recently made a re-appearance in the south Torrance-Lomita area after an absence of about a year. He usually appears with a paper bag over his head.

**Girl Fights Attacker Who Jumped Hedge**  
A woman who jumped out of the hedge in front of 24324 Pennsylvania Ave., tried to attack her, a 16-year-old Lomita girl told sheriff's deputies Thursday.

The girl said she was walking home from a dance lesson, when a dark man about 25 years old grabbed her and tried to choke her when she screamed. The man threw her to the ground, but she struggled and screamed until he finally fled. The girl said she believes she may have scratched his face badly.

## City Asked to Decorate Center

A suggestion from Chamber of Commerce Manager Dick Fitzgerald that the city's new civic center be decorated for Christmas will be considered by the City Council as one of the regular items of business at its 5:30 p.m. meeting Tuesday.

"The Chamber, as well as the citizens of our community, is extremely proud of our Civic Center, and with this in mind we respectfully request that you consider Christmas lighting on your buildings," Fitzgerald wrote to the Council.

The Council also will be asked to give final approval to the rezoning of a huge parcel of commercial property at Sepulveda Blvd. and Hawthorne Ave. which is being proposed as a major shopping center. The ordinance rezoning the property was introduced and approved last week and will be up for final adoption Tuesday.

**New Law Backed**  
Support from the city's photographic studios for the proposal to permit door-to-door soliciting under close scrutiny of the city will be presented to the Council, also.

The Council will consider a request of Ennis F. P. Miller, of 2529 Nearcliff St., for a meeting with residents of the area to discuss "a serious problem regarding the slope grading and drainage in this area." Miller reported to the Council that attempts to meet with the contractor had been ignored.

**To Get Park**  
City Manager George Stevens will recommend Tuesday that the city accept title to 6.3 acres of land adjacent to the Hollywood Riviera School from Harry Kissel to be used as a park for that area. The land would be given to the city in lieu of park and recreation fees, use tax, and engineering fees totaling about \$26,000.

The Council will meet in an informal session at 5 p.m. Tuesday with the formal meeting starting at 5:30.

Councilman Willys G. Blount will continue to serve as mayor during the absence of Mayor Albert Isen.

**\$500,000 in Building Here During Month**  
Building permits in Torrance for the first half of November totaled about \$500,000, according to Walter Bradford, senior clerk in the City Engineer's office. The city already has set a new building record of \$45,105,311.

Two warehouses topped the list of permits so far this month. A Rochlin took out a permit for a \$128,000 warehouse at 525 Arlington Ave., while J. D. Howard took out a permit for a \$50,000 warehouse in the 24700 block on Crenshaw Blvd.

Norris Knolls took out permits for four homes on San Ardo St. Value of the houses was set at \$53,600.

Permits for three apartment houses at 16912-18-24 Yukon Ave. were taken out at a value of \$32,800 each.

## Retired PE Superintendent Dies; Rites Here Tomorrow

George A. Evans, 79, who retired from Pacific Electric Shops as superintendent in 1950, died at his home, 1024 Portola Ave., Thursday. He had been a Torrance resident for 32 years.

Mr. Evans, who began working for the PE as a carpenter here in 1919, rose to superintendent of shops in 1938. On his retirement in 1950, Evans recalled that the oil boom was on in Torrance when he first arrived here and he was unable to find a home. His company was building houses near the shops at that time, and he purchased a home at 1025 Portola, the home in which he resided until his death.

Mr. Evans was born in Schenectady, N.Y., on July 6, 1879, and began to learn the carpenter's trade when he was 18. After coming to California in 1918, he went to work for the old Bijou Film Studio on Georgia St. in Los Angeles. The studio was then turning out silent movies starring Kathleen MacDonald, siren of her day.

He left there in 1919 to join Pacific Electric, and he remained with that firm here until the last working day of 1950.

Funeral services for Mr. Evans will be held at Stone and Myers Mortuary Chapel tomorrow morning at 10 with Rev. Hugh R. Percy of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church officiating.

Mr. Evans is survived by his widow, Emma. Interment will be at Green Hills Cemetery.

**12-Year-Old Suspected of Burglary Try**  
A 12-year-old boy was nabbed by police Friday night after he assertedly burglarized the home of Myrtle Kelly at 3415 W. 186th St., according to police.

Officers said the lad admitted entering the home through an unlocked door. They said he had a dog leash taken from the home.

The lad was released to the custody of his parents pending a hearing.