

# Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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# NEIGHBOR FREED IN COP'S DEATH

## Coroner Rules Death Natural

Results of a coroner's autopsy freed a local resident who had been jailed Sunday on suspicion of murdering a Los Angeles policeman. Doctors ruled the officer died of a coronary occlusion, not from a blow suffered in a fight with a neighbor.

Robert Leland Bradbury, 34, of 4709 Laurette St., was booked following the death of Claude Woodrow Looper, 42, of 4705 Laurette St. Police reported the two men had been in a fight earlier in the day.

Looper, who was found lying in his driveway by his wife, was pronounced dead at a local emergency hospital following an unsuccessful effort by the fire department rescue squad to revive him.

Local detectives reported Looper and Bradbury had words about the latter's barking dog and a fist fight ensued.

The two men were separated by a friend of Looper's and Bradbury telephoned Torrance police and informed them of the fight. Bradbury then went to get medical attention for bruises suffered in the fight.

Looper, according to police, drove a friend to Redondo Beach, came back to his house and collapsed in the drive way. With the Los Angeles police department since 1948, he was assigned to the Venice division. He is survived by his wife and two children.



NICKOLAS O. DRALE  
... Hat in Ring

## Drale Tosses Hat in for Mayor's Race

Nickolas O. Drale, member of the city council for nearly 10 years, announced yesterday that he would seek election this spring to the newly created post of mayor.

Drale's formal announcement is the first in the 1958 city campaign although Albert Isen, another member of the city council and currently serving as mayor, has said repeatedly that he probably will be a candidate.

Formal nominations for the April 8 election will open here on Jan. 23 and will remain open until 5 p.m. on Feb. 13.

Drale has been a resident of Torrance since 1934, and has lived at 3431 W. 171st St. for the past 23 years. He was first elected to the city council in April, 1948, and has served continuously since that date, including a term as mayor in 1954 and 1955.

"In announcing my candidacy for the office of Mayor of Torrance, I have been guided by a few important principles," Drale said.

"To begin with, I grew up with the community and I realize and understand its many problems. For the past 10 years, nine as a councilman and one as mayor, many important decisions had to be made and I am proud to have played an important part in making those decisions and guiding the destinies of our rapidly growing city. To my knowledge, no other community has had such astounding and well rounded growth," he added.

"I have always kept myself close to the people of Torrance and I believe I know how they stand and what they want. This, as far as I am concerned, will not change. I aim always to keep in touch with the good

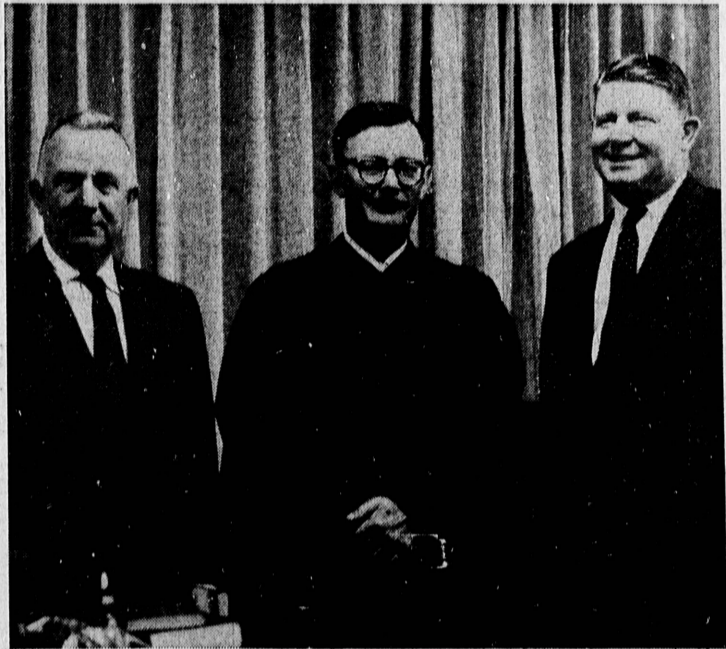
## Youths Rob Liquor Store

Two men sporting crew-cuts held up a liquor store at 23421 S. Western Ave., Sunday, escaping with \$250.

The store clerk, Erwin A. Patterson, 25211 Cypress Ave., Lomita, told police he was alone in the store when the pair came in.

One of the men stood guard at the door while the other produced a revolver and ordered the clerk to step back.

Described as in their early 20s, the pair cleaned out the cash register and left on foot.



AT COURT OPENING . . . Judge John A. Shidler (center) who first donned robes as a judge in the same building in 1941, returned to Torrance's old city hall Monday morning and opened Division III of the South Bay Municipal Court. On hand for the first session here were his colleagues, Judge Donald Armstrong, left, and Judge Otto B. Willett.

## Shopping, Medical Centers Set at Torrance, Hawthorne

The commercial boom predicted for Torrance during 1958 took another big step Monday as C. N. Cake and Mrs.

Kenneth Day announced plans to build a \$2,000,000 shopping center and a \$500,000 medical professional building at the northeast corner of Hawthorne and Torrance Blvd.

Work on the 10-acre shopping center, which will include about 45 stores, should begin within three months, Cake reported. Completion is expected within six to eight months after work begins.

## Board Offers To Buy Land Near School

The Torrance School Board Tuesday night agreed to pay Burt Lenell, 4802 Mayor Dr., \$1125 for the northeast 57 feet of his property, following a dispute over the land because of site work on nearby Calle Mayor School.

Work on the center should begin within a few months, she said. All oil wells presently on the property will be removed and some shops may also be placed on the property, she reported.

Many Stores  
The center, which will be located only four blocks from the \$40,000,000 Del Amo Shopping Center, will include a number of stores, including a supermarket, shoe store, drug store, service station, variety store, professional offices, and various other businesses, he said.

Present plans call for construction of a 100-foot parking lot to run along Hawthorne Blvd., from Torrance Blvd. to Emerald St., in front of the stores. A warehouse will run behind the stores. Store frontage on Hawthorne Ave. is selling for \$17,500 per 50 by 200 foot lot and is virtually all contracted for, Cake said.

The board authorized proceedings with a stipulation for interlocutory judgement.

Site work is currently going on at Calle Mayor School, with bids to be let for the building later this month. A large sump will be built for the school, located on the edge of Walteria Lake property.

## Medical Center Set

Mrs. Day announced plans to build a \$500,000 medical professional building on Torrance Blvd., just east of the shopping center. It will include some 15 medical offices in the first unit, she said.

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## Torrance Men Save Angler

Two Torrance fishermen saved one man who was swept into the sea by heavy surf at the 10th St. breakwater in Redondo Beach, but were unable to save another man.

Art Hubbard, 32, 17208 Elgar Ave., and Frank Sincove Jr., 31, 5208 Laurette St., hopped into the water and succeeded in rescuing Alexander Chandler, 44, Los Angeles. He was reported in good condition at Harbor General Hospital.

They were unable to save Henry Bitson, 30, whose body was recovered 30 minutes later.

All traveling south on Western were Betty Jean Palumbo, 25, of 22111 Halldale Ave.; Fred Henderson, 60, of 24630 Eshelman Ave. and Dr. George Zugsmith, 49, of San Pedro. The first car stopped and the third car rammed into the second, forcing it into the first car.

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## Two Children, Seven Others Hurt in Series of Crashes

Nine persons were injured in six accidents during the first part of the week, Torrance police reported.

Two of the injured were youngsters.

Ten-year-old Ronald Anchando, 3824 W. 180th St., was taken to Harbor General Hospital Monday with a broken leg following an accident at 182nd St. and Doty Ave.

The youngster was crossing the street in the marked crosswalk when he was struck by a car driven by Terry Joe Baker, 21, of Inglewood.

Baker was cited for failure to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk.

Hits Bicycle Rider  
A car driven by John Lorenzo Hays, 50, of 21806 Redbeam Ave., collided with a bicycle ridden by Donald Swift, 5, of 22106 Redbeam Ave.

The youngsters were treated for cuts and bruises Saturday and the driver was not held.

He was a passenger in a car driven by John Jackson Harris, 1728 Abalone Ave. The other

driver was Marguerite Theresa Allen, 49, of Long Beach.

Three persons received minor injuries in an accident Saturday at Hawthorne Ave. and Torrance Blvd.

One of the drivers, Cyrus Cooper Gray, 26, of Los Angeles, and his passenger, Jodie Holich, 21, of Redondo Beach, were taken to Harbor General Hospital by ambulance. The other driver, Eugenia Mary Foster, 16, of 1026 W. 226th St., was taken to the hospital later by her mother.

Police said Gray was attempting to turn west onto Torrance Blvd. when he was struck by the south-bound car.

Charles Siesser, 21, of 278 E. 213th St., was treated by a private physician for minor injuries resulting from an accident at Cabrillo Ave. and 218th St.

He was a passenger in a car driven by John Jackson Harris, 1728 Abalone Ave. The other

driver was Marguerite Theresa Allen, 49, of Long Beach.

## Hess to Address YMCA Banquet

Col. Dean Hess will be the main speaker at the Torrance YMCA annual kick-off banquet and annual dinner to be held on Monday, Jan. 20, at the Torrance Civic Auditorium. More than 2000 invitations are being mailed to citizens, firms, and civic organizations, according to Mayor Albert Isen, chairman of the 1958 fund-raising campaign.

The evening will commemorate another successful year of growth for the local YMCA and will launch this year's drive to raise \$30,000 for support of the Y for the coming year.

Battle Hymn Hero  
The main speaker is the man about whom the movie, "Battle Hymn" was made. He also commanded the South Korean Air Force. Prior to his service career, Col. Hess was an ordained minister. At present, Col. Hess is one of the best informed missile men on the west coast.

Since the 1958 YMCA campaign theme is centered around a "Space Race," Col. Hess was chosen as speaker to launch the largest current support campaign ever attempted by any organization in the city of Torrance.

The banquet will honor the board of managers of the Torrance YMCA, and the chairman, Ben Smith. This group of citizens has guided the YMCA from a small membership with inadequate financial support to the present position, with over 5500 youth members in 68 YMCA clubs and tribes; 11 YMCA camps last summer; plus active programs of worship, recreation, education, and service throughout the year. At present the staff has grown to two full-time and two part-time YMCA secretaries.

Campaigners Honored  
The 250 YMCA campaigners will also be honored as they begin the task of supporting the youth activities of the local YMCA for another year. The

## Parents Like Report Cards, Officials Say

Modification of the reporting procedure in Torrance elementary school has met with overwhelming favor among parents, according to school officials.

A questionnaire was sent to about 700 parents to get their reactions to the progress report card sent home. Some changes were made in the report card and reporting procedures as the result of a study made by teachers and laymen last spring.

The parents indicated 687-4 that they felt the report was "an honest, sincere evaluation without sugar-coating." Nearly unanimous agreement, officials said, was expressed on such questions as:

1. Did you become better acquainted with your child's teacher? (680-11).
2. Did you become better acquainted with the instructional program your child is having? (667-24).
3. If your child is not making expected progress, did you learn why he is falling to do so? (673-18).

## Rivets Reports

Today's weather should be mostly sunny with slightly cooler temperatures. Rivets, HERALD weather dog noted, as he mopped his brow. There may be a little early-morning fog. High and low temperatures this week were Sunday (80-59); Monday (79-59); Tuesday (82-44); and Wednesday (75-43).

## A Penny for your Thoughts

Noting recent catty remarks made about the city's feline population, the HERALD's inquiring photographer asked: "A woman recently asked the city council to put cats under the same restrictions as dogs—that they be licensed and required to stay in their own yards. What do you think of this idea?"

Mrs. Pauline Kemp, 22704 Earl St., housewife:

"I think cats should be licensed the same as dogs. They run wild in our neighborhood and somebody's cat even had his kittens in our car recently."

Sam Trovato, 3941 W. 187th St., aircraft worker:

"I don't see why cats should be licensed. You never hear about cats harming or biting children the way dogs do. Dogs cause much more trouble than cats."

Mrs. Minot Rugg, 1506 W. 214th St., housewife:

"It's impossible to license all the cats. There's no master for any cats. Cats are like children. They should be controlled by their owners."

Hilary Klinicke, 1329 W. Carson St., aircraft worker:

"It would be much harder to license cats. I've never been able to keep any of them. I don't think it would work to try it. People like dogs better. There's more tradition behind it."

Mrs. Ralph Owens, 3832 Palos Verdes Dr. North, Palos Verdes, housewife:

"It would be rather hard to do, but probably it would be a good idea. People might take better care of them if they had that much of an investment in them."

Fred Boren, 1318 Elm Ave., employment official:

"It would be a good idea if somebody could figure out how to catch the cats. That would be the number one problem."

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