

# Torrance Youth Dies on Roller Coaster; Rites Held

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## Torrance Herald

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# CAR SLIPS; 17-YEAR-OLD CRUSHED

## Pal Escapes As Car Falls

A 17-year-old Torrance youth was fatally injured here Tuesday evening when an auto on which he was working slipped off the jack and crushed him near his North Torrance home.

Killed by the heavy auto was Joseph N. Gomez, of 15215 Wilkie Ave. He was pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital.

Investigating officers said Gomez and a friend, 17-year-old Virgil Dunlap, who lives at 2609 W. 182nd St., had jacked up the front end of an auto and removed the wheels and front spring assembly. Gomez was under the auto when the vehicle slipped from the jack and crashed down on him.

POLICE WERE told that Gomez was prying out one of the front coil springs when it suddenly broke loose, jarring the car enough to topple it from the jack.

Dunlap was under the rear assembly of the auto at the time, and escaped injury.

Both Gomez and Dunlap were students at El Camino College, and Gomez was a member of the Charoeters, a Torrance Police-sponsored club.

ROSBARY WILL BE recited for young Gomez at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Gardena at 7:30 Friday evening and Requiem Mass will be celebrated at 8 a.m. Saturday. Interment will be in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Gomez is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jose Gomez, of the Wilkie Ave. address, and a brother, Octavio, 14.

### AT CONCLAVE

Frank M. Blenkhorn, general manager of the Credit Bureau of the South Bay District with offices in Torrance and Hermosa Beach left Sunday by plane to attend a three-day executive credit meeting of the Associated Credit Bureaus of America to be held in St. Louis, Mo.

## Mrs. Willett Moderator of TEAC for '59

Mrs. Otto Willett, a former teacher who has been active in PTA work for a number of years, was named moderator of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee at its meeting Monday noon. She succeeds Dr. Joseph P. Bay.

The wife of South Bay Municipal Judge Otto Willett, she has served as vice moderator during the past year. She is active in the South High PTA, and has two sons, Steve, 18, and Bill, 14.

The Rev. Milton Sippel, pastor of the First Christian Church, was elected vice moderator. He represents the park and recreation commission.

Mrs. Kathleen Canby, YWCA representative, will be secretary, while Mrs. Esther Walker, First Christian Church, was chosen treasurer.

## Burglars Tap Lomita Phone Office Safe

Several hundred dollars in cash and checks were taken from the office of the Lomita office of the Pacific Telephone Co. over the week end, sheriff's deputies reported.

Yeggs who entered the building at 24719 Narbonne Ave. by forcing open a rear door, prised open a safe door to get at the money.

They also took a number of envelopes which had been dropped through a letter slot in the front door of the building, investigators said.

**A Penny for your Thoughts**

Tuesday was Veterans' Day and your HERALD photographer looked around town for a picture of some activity commemorating this day. But finding none he asked the first six people he met. "Are you a veteran, what branch of the service were you in and do you think we should have some civic celebration in honor of this day?"

Jack Simmons, Crenshaw Blvd. Service Station attendant, Korean Navy veteran: "I sure think every city should have a celebration on Veterans' Day. It's too easy to forget how important a uniform once was."

Herb Caylor, Gardena car salesman, World War II Marine veteran: "I think having parades and celebrations on Veterans' Day should be part of every city's program and I think veterans organizations should get behind these programs."

Mrs. Jeanne Crowland, 2004 177th Street, World War II War: "I think it is regrettable that we don't have more celebrations on Veterans' Day. I think it would be good for veterans to put on their old uniforms — if they still fit — and march in parades."

W. Nolan, 1429 Madison, refinery maintenance man, Air Force World War II: "I guess 12 or 14 years is too long for the memories of people. I think we should all get behind these programs and I think the Vets' organizations should do something about it."

Joe Moreno, Los Angeles truck driver, Army World War II: "I think we should have parades and things on Veterans' Day even though I usually work on holidays and parades like... will really feel up a truck driver."

Paul Samson, El Camino College senior, Korean Army veteran: "Sure, we should celebrate Veterans' Day. We have plenty of men in uniform to march in parades and schools have ROTC and good bands."

## Thrill Victim 19-Year-Old Dies on Ride

Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon for a 19-year-old Torrance youth who was killed in a roller-coaster accident last week end.

George A. Doig, son of Mr. and Mrs. David Doig of 1925 Crenshaw Blvd., lost his life Saturday night when he leaned out of his speeding car on a Long Beach roller coaster and struck his head against a wooden brace.

Most of the shrieking crowd whirling up and down the looping rails failed to notice the sudden accident until the coaster train returned to the ground with the battered body of the dead thrill-seeker slumped forward in his blood-spattered seat.

ACCOMPANYING Doig, whose 400-foot trail of blood led investigating officers to the fatal brace, were Robert McClure, 19, of Los Angeles, who sat behind him, and Caratano Belendez, 19, of 3142 Rosecrans Ave., who sat in front of him. Both claimed they did not hear him cry out above the din of noisy merry-makers.

Officiating at yesterday's 2 p.m. funeral at Stone & Myers Chapel was Father Hugh Percy. Interment took place at Green Hills.

Surviving the Michigan-born youth, who had resided in this area for the past four years, are his parents; a sister, Jean A. Doig, also of the Crenshaw Blvd. address; and a grandmother, Mrs. A. E. Jones; uncle, Edward Jones; and aunt, Alice Jones, all of Toronto, Canada.

**GARAGE LOOTED**  
Tools and equipment valued at \$139 were taken from the garage of Charles Sengir Jr., 2005 W. 168th St., according to police.

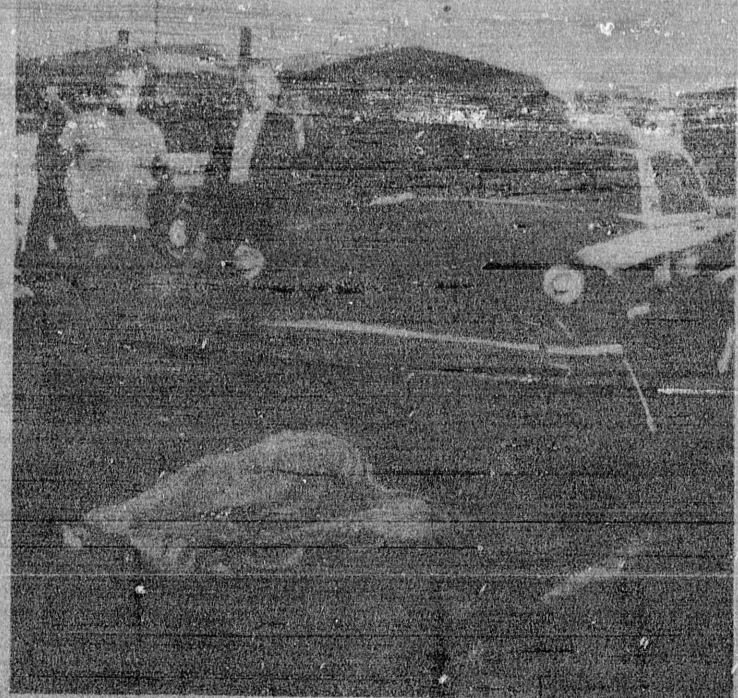
## Hahn Issues Blast On Hospital Delay

With more than two years having elapsed since the voters approved a \$15,500,000 bond issue for the Harbor General Hospital, preliminary plans for the urgently needed project have still not been brought before the Board of Supervisors for approval. Supervisor Kenneth Hahn declared yesterday.

"I have requested County Engineer John A. Lambie and Chief Administrative Officer to give this project their immediate, personal attention, so that there will be no further delays," the supervisor stated. He pointed out that the bond issue was approved by the voters on Nov. 2, 1955, and four architectural firms were assigned to the project a week later.



**OFFERING RIDES** . . . Torrance auto dealers will offer free rides to downtown Torrance Friday and Saturday during "Red Tag Days" sales event. Hosts are Vel Willett of Vel's Ford; Betty Baker, "Miss Torrance" emcee; Iwigo Eivosh of Eubank Rambler; and Dick Hottelsoth of Paul's Chevrolet. Phone numbers for the video are Paul's, FA 8-1543; Vel's, FA 8-3014; and Eubank's, FA 8-9722. (Herald Photo)



**DEATH SCENE** . . . The body of Joseph Gomez, 17-year-old El Camino College student, lies covered in front of the vehicle which fell on him near his home Tuesday afternoon. Gomez and a friend were working on the auto. (Herald Photo by Bob Willett)

## Industrial Growth Cited Six Blue-Chip Firms Building Plants Here

Heralding one of the greatest achievements of industrial growth in Torrance was the announcement this week of plans by six "blue chip" firms to locate plants in the city.

Selecting Torrance sites for their new divisions were the following companies: Magnavox, Beland Muffler, Columbia Van Lines, Woodland Furniture, Magna Electronics and the AirResearch Mfg. Div. of the Garrett Corp. An additional firm, whose name is still confidential, is also planning to move here.

**A 20-ACRE SITE** north of Maricopa between Maple and Crenshaw in the new Santa Fe Industrial Park is being developed as a research and development facility by Magnavox.

Located in the same general area immediately north of Warren Southwest will be Beland Muffler, automobile muffler manufacturer, which plans an 80,000 square foot facility on its nine-acre parcel.

Magna Electronics, already in production at the former Northrup facility at 2133 Du-

linguey, employs about 100 persons. Plans for further expansion are in the offing. Manufacturers of musical instruments and sound system equipment, they are set up to handle government and military work.

**COLUMBIA VAN Lines** is also building in the Santa Fe Industrial Park on seven acres. They will handle export packing in their new 80,000 sq. ft. building. Construction will start immediately on a \$181,000 building.

Woodland Furniture, now located in Santa Monica, will set up facilities in the Harry J. Early Development near the Vickers Plant, on Lomita Blvd. north of the Municipal Airport between Crenshaw and Hawthorne blvds. on a five-acre parcel. They manufacture "nude" light furniture and will employ about 100 people.

## U.S., Russian Schools Compared

### Lenin Deified, Educator Finds

Education in Russia is a stiff, unyielding training session in the doctrines of Communism, and is not the free exchange of information enjoyed by students in American schools, Dr. Glen T. Goodwill, superintendent of Santa Monica's schools, said here this week.

Speaking before the members and guests of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee, Dr. Goodwill admitted, however, that the Russian education system had a number of positive points to its credit.

Forty years ago, the nation had an illiteracy rate exceeding 70 per cent, and now the nation is almost 100 per cent literate, he said.

"And they have put Sputnik I, II and III into orbit," he added.

Their success is marked by the tales long lived of Russians, four abreast, who pass through Lenin's tomb each day, he said.

**CHILDREN'S SONGS** eulogize Lenin, and the youth of the nation are raised under the supervision of youth groups which are closely supervised Party organizations.

"Man is just a conglomerate of chemicals in Russia," the educator said. "He is important only for his contribution to collectivism."

**RUSSIAN** youngsters go to nursery school from the time they are two months old until they reach three years. From ages three through seven, they attend kindergartens. At seven they move into regular school.

After seven years of schooling (age 14), they are given a comprehensive exam. Those who fail go into industry while those who pass attend schools for another three years. At the end of the 10th year of schooling another exam is given.

Their foreign language program starts in the fifth grade.

Their behavior is rigidly controlled, with considerable social pressure from young communist organizations. Parents, who hold once-a-month conferences with teachers, are held responsible for their children's work. The father's labor union may enter the picture if a child continues to do poorly.

**SCHOOLS ARE** open from Sept. 1 to about May 20, about the same as in America. Many American students receive a greater total number of hours. Russian children get about 10,130 hours of school in 10 years while in Torrance they receive about 10,400 in 12 years.

No intelligence tests or anything similar are used in the schools. There is great emphasis on competition, but considerable emphasis on recitation. There are schools for children who are especially talented in a particular subject.

There is great competition to enter Russian universities. Students must be high school graduates, and, in addition, must pass exams in various subjects. They are interviewed by the university department head, Communist Party representatives, Young Communist representatives, and labor union representatives. Those who have spent two years in industry and military service are given preference.

Moscow University is well equipped, particularly with audio-visual aids and laboratories. Other schools do not seem to be as well equipped.

Despite considerable prestige which a Russian teacher enjoys, his or her salary ranges from about \$37 to \$92 a month. An electrician gets about \$70; a housemaid, \$25; and a street-sweeper, \$40. The director of a Moscow educational academy, however, gets about \$250.

The standard of living generally is much lower. Although rent is cheap, food is costly. Sample prices of goods include shirt, \$5-\$8; suit, \$40-\$120; ladies' slip, \$22; ladies' hose, \$5; shoes, \$20; sweater, \$45; pants, dress, \$14; blouse, \$24; and bicycle, \$65.

Russia, which produced the first jet airplane and the first Sputnik, has come a long way since 40 years ago when the nation was illiterate. Today, the nation is nearly 100 per cent literate.