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# Torrance Herald

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# LOCAL MAN DIES IN COLLISION

## Auto Crashes Parked Truck

A 29-year-old Torrance man was slain and two children injured near Oceanside Friday when the auto in which the three were riding crashed into the rear of a truck on Pacific Coast Hwy. The truck was stopped at a washing station.

James Sanders, of 29701 Vermont Ave. was pronounced dead on arrival at an Oceanside hospital following the crash.

Injured were Elmer Drossoff, 29, of the Vermont Ave. address, and Mary E. Wright, 21, of 26537 Vermont Ave. Drossoff was reported to have suffered slight injuries. Miss Wright a broken leg and facial injuries.

Sanders was a welder in a Long Beach assembly plant. Driver of the truck into which the trio crashed was reported unhurt.

In another accident at Artesia and Central, a Compton man was killed.

Elwyn G. Parry, 32, was crushed when his car went out of control in the fog and rolled over. He was dead on arrival at a Compton medical clinic.

## Floys Bidding

## Insurance Man Says City Out \$4000 Premium

A charge that the city council disregarded a patent, savings of several thousand dollars in employee insurance rates was voiced this week by an insurance company representative who had bid on the city's group insurance program.

Lee D. Crammer, Jr., representing Pacific Group Agencies, Inc., chided the council by letter for permitting "a long discussion, including amendments about a sum of \$1200 a year" and "then in a total of not more than three minutes elapsed time, you gave away over \$6000 of combined city and employee money with the most cursory consideration based on a set of conclusions which were nearly 100% false."

Crammer said 25 of 30 insurance companies, along with Blue Cross and the California Physician's Service, entered bids in response to a city request. The bids were opened, analyzed, and inquiry made to the satisfaction of the city manager's staff in the "responsibility, reputation, and ability to perform of the lowest bidder."

The council voted to continue the Blue Cross plan as though it was not the low bidder.

Crammer said the low bidder was \$999.38 lower than the Blue Cross bid.

Crammer's letter will be forwarded to the city council Tuesday.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

Annual Christmas party sponsored by the American Legion will be held Sunday, Dec. 21, according to H. E. Kider, chairman.

## 15 Directors Elected by Dinner Club

Fifteen Torrance area men were elected to the board of directors of the newly organized Executives Dinner Club of the Torrance area, according to an announcement by Temporary Trustee Dean L. Sears today. They will serve terms of office effective Jan. 1 and will elect permanent officers at a meeting to be held at 4 p.m. Monday at the Chamber of Commerce office.

Those elected include Judge Donald Armstrong, George A. Bradford, Ted C. Coleman, Jack Drain, Dick Fitzgerald, Donald J. Hiebrook, Dr. J. H. Hull, Sam Levy, Del Nadeau, J. H. Page, D. J. Parrish, Dick Pyle, Peter L. Sears, Dr. Hollis R. Smith and Dr. Howard A. Wood.

The group held its inaugural banquet Tuesday at the San Pedro Hotel with Sen. Earl A. Murch of South Dakota as featured speaker. Del Nadeau acted as master of ceremonies and HERALD publisher KING Williams introduced the speaker.

## Torrance Near Goal In Chest Campaign

Rolling Hills School, the five Harbor Area city to make its goal, reporting \$7235 or 101.34% at the Los Angeles Area report meeting, Friday, Dec. 12.

Harbor Area reported 96.29% of goal, slightly less

than the entire Los Angeles Area Red Feather appeal which stands at \$10,125,416 raised or \$0.41% of goal.

Glen Hoyer, chairman of the Harbor Area, speaking for his seven communities, said that a special mail and telephone campaign this week will be used to bring in the final \$10,555 which will complete the goal of \$107,165.

He noted that as late as the day in the Harbor Area (the year has due to individuals not being reached, rather than any actual in give.

There is no better way of expressing the spirit of the holiday season than with a check which will help the Chest campaign over the top. Remember that we must not leave children waiting for their final appeal.

Rolling of the Harbor communities as reported at the Friday, Dec. 12th meeting.

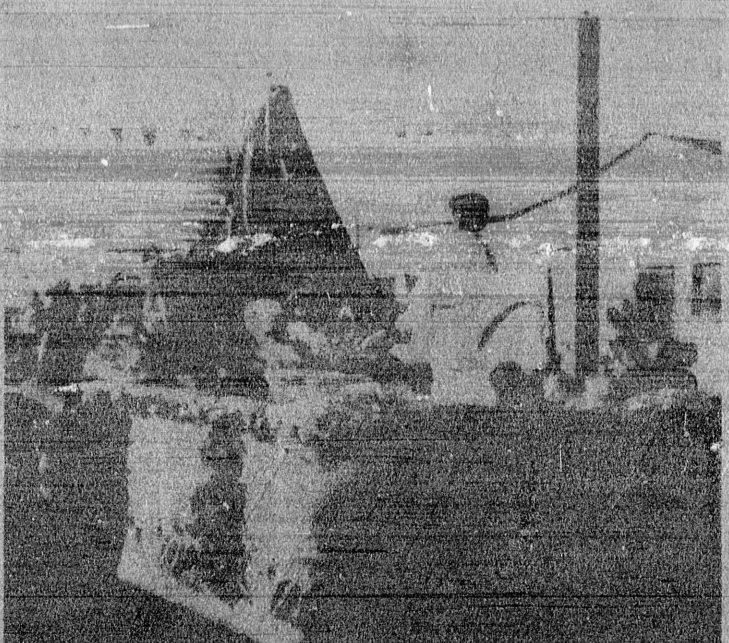
City	Amount	Cont.
Torrance	\$28,800	97
San Pedro	21,532	100
Cardenas	24,942	60
Whittier	17,543	65
Palos Verdes	9,573	28
Rolling Hills	7,159	101
La Brea Harbor	2,000	20

## Man Arrested Here Given 2 Prison Terms

A 30-year-old Long Beach, Calif. worker who was captured by two Torrance officers after a week's hunt throughout the Southland, was sentenced to two life terms in prison Thursday for kidnaping a couple last July 5 and raping the woman.

Superior Judge Leroy Dawson denied any possibility of parole for Norman F. Gagnon after he was convicted of rape, auto theft, and assault to commit murder.

GAGNON WAS arrested at Terrace Blvd. and Sartori July 12, just a week after his crime by Officers Robert Jones and Ronald Nicolai. He



IMPRESSIVE ENTRY . . . The shrine was one of the outstanding floats in the annual procession held in the Pueblo Saturday afternoon. The event highlighted Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration. (Herald Photo)

## Hospital Reports:

## Victim of Sewer Blast In Critical Condition

A 43-year-old Los Angeles man burned Friday morning in a flash fire and explosion in a storm drain at 259th and Western Ave. was reported in critical condition at Riviera Hospital yesterday afternoon.

Adolph Madrid, who was working in the storm drain which is under construction in the area, received second and third-degree burns on half of his body when sewer gases exploded.

Sources of the times which ignited had not been determined yesterday.

Witnesses said flames shot six feet above the manhole in which Madrid was working.

The explosion was heard for several miles.

Carlos Torres Mandujano, 49, also of Los Angeles, was working in another section of the drain when he heard the blast. He climbed out and ran nearly a block to the manhole above the blast area.

Mary Lou Powers, who witnessed the event, said Mandujano carried the critically injured Madrid to the manhole where he waited the arrival of firemen.

## WATER HEARING SET FOR TUESDAY

Law water pressures and other complaints against operation of Narbonne Ranch Water Co. will be aired officially Tuesday at a public hearing called by the Public Utilities Commission.

The hearing opens at 10 a.m. at the Louisa Elementary School auditorium.

## Burned Worker Critical

Larry Hebert, burned when metal scaffolding contacted a high voltage line at the Ryan Aeronautical Plant Tuesday, remained in critical condition at Riviera Hospital yesterday afternoon.

Hebert and two other Ryan employees were injured when they shorted a 13,800-volt line across the yard of the Ryan plant on Louisa Blvd. west of Grammer.

The injured men were patients for the aircraft company.

Hebert lives at 2157 W. 254th St. Lomita.

## Old City Hall Proposed for Water Office

A suggestion that the old city hall be made available to the Water Department to provide for the expanded needs of that city service has been made to the city council by the newly formed water commission.

Robert Paul Hogue, president of the new commission, said his group felt that the old city hall would best serve the needs of the city by being made available to the water district.

Hogue also reported that Superintendent Angus McVicar reported that it would cost an estimated \$500,000 for the city to acquire Narbonne Ranch Water Co. No. 3, which serves a large section of the Torrance oil fields and northern Lomita. The company has been the target of many complaints during recent years.



TO HEAD SHOP . . . Janet F. Underwood, welding foreman at Bethlehem Pacific's Fabricating Works here, has been appointed shop superintendent. Underwood, who succeeds Nelson P. Brown, has been with Bethlehem Pacific since 1911.



PROMISED . . . Carl A. Peterson, of 532 Faxon Dr. in P.H.A. was appointed this week to the position of marketing manager by the McCulloch Corp., Los Angeles, manufacturer of piglet chain saws. He formerly held the post of marketing research manager for the chain saw firm.

## Ice Cream Man 'Seen Even' by Working Truck

An ice cream vendor claiming he had been freed got even with his boss Friday by sending his truck hurtling over a 200-foot Pease Venable cliff.

Roy M. Dunn, 34, said he did it because he had been fired. His boss, Walter Strohshank of Long Beach, denied it.

Dunn pleaded innocent to malicious mischief charges and a jury trial has been scheduled for Wednesday in South Bay Municipal Court. He was jailed in lieu of \$500 bail.

1015 FORCE . . . Six new graduates of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Academy were ready for duty with the Torrance Police Department this week following their graduation from the intensive eight-week training course. Left to right are Joseph Capriotti, Thomas Lloyd, Robert Lyden, Sheriff Peter

Fincham, Torrance Chief Peter Bennett, Torrance Captain John Novelli, Jimmy Bell, Los Angeles, and Paul Simpson. Bennett said all new officers of the Torrance department will be sent to the Academy for initial training.

## A Penny for your Thoughts

"Do you favor and enjoy the Christmas parties? Why?" That was the question the HERALD asked several persons shopping in downtown Torrance this week. Their answers and pictures appear below.

Jim Saghatelian, 1001 Grammercy, cafe operator.

"I think it's nice for people to extend friendship towards one another at Christmas that you don't usually see the rest of the year. I approve absolutely and enjoy them terrifically."

Estelle Carlson, 119 W. 225 St. clerk.

"It depends on what kind of an office party it is. Yes, I like a good clean party like the ones we have at Newberry's; but unfortunately, they are not all like that."

Dr. Philip M. Halvorsen, 1010 Beach Ave, physician.

"The trouble with office parties isn't the parties themselves it's the drinking that takes place. I think people are beginning to realize this, though, and are getting away from it somewhat."

Verne Harrison, 906 Gasline St, chemical operator.

"No, I don't favor them. I don't think a tavern occasion should be used as an excuse for a drinking bout. There's no danger in coffee and cookies, but that isn't what I usually served at office parties."

Mrs. C. J. Brandt, 22208 Wilby Ave, N.

"I go along with them to a certain degree. A couple of a good time and crowd feeling towards every one, but not to such an extreme where it ends in more headaches than joy."

Mrs. William Agapin, 1740 Hickory Ave, housewife.

"I approve of office Christmas parties only for those who live in the city area. If you drink and then have to drive out of town it might prove pretty dangerous. When I worked and lived in town I enjoyed them."