

# Committee Opens Drive for Area Superior Court

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## Torrance Herald

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# EX-CON ADMITS CAFE BURGLARIES

### A Penny for your Thoughts

With Christmas shopping just starting, the Pennies photographer asked five Torrance senior citizens the following question:

"What type of Christmas gifts are most appreciated by elderly people?"

**Mrs. L. Leben, 903 Amapola:**  
"I think I'd appreciate clothes more than anything else. Clothes change from year to year and things for the home stay about the same. Gift certificates are nice, also theatre tickets."

**Mrs. Elizabeth Rattigan, 1028 Beech Ave.:**  
"I think stockings are a welcome gift for women. Articles of clothing are appreciated very much. After you keep house for years, you have what you need in that line."

**Mrs. Ottilia Kuyper, 24411 Park St.:**  
"Appliances are an appropriate gift. Also books are a good gift item. Clothing is practical to give. I don't care much for candy but I like fruit such as dates."

**Mel Wagers, 24439 Winlock Drive:**  
"Older people prefer clothes. I really do enjoy pictures of my grandchildren more than anything else. Trip tickets are a really wonderful gift. And of course just being with relatives and friends at Christmas is important."

**Samour Taylor, 108 Mayfair:**  
"A tie is a gift I would like. I'm a cigar smoker and a box of good cigars is really appreciated."

## Chace Backs Drive to Put Court in Area

Opening guns have been fired in a campaign to have a branch of the Superior Court established in the Torrance-South Bay area to serve the heavy concentration of population in the district, according to Atty. Boris S. Woolley, chairman of the Torrance Committee for a Superior Court.

The committee, which includes civic leaders and city officials, began preparation of plans this week to present its case when the time comes to decide where a regional court should be located, Woolley said.

**CITY ATTORNEY Stanley Remelmeier, who has been maintaining constant con-**

tact with state and county officials on the matter, reported that the county plans to construct new Superior Court buildings in each of the nine regional districts of the county, and that eventually, each court will house from six to twelve judges.

A new multi-judge Superior Court building has already been constructed in downtown Long Beach for the South District.

**THE SOUTHWEST District, to which Torrance has been assigned, includes Torrance, the beach cities, Inglewood, and southwest Los Angeles as far north as Slauson Blvd. The court is now located in rented quarters in Inglewood.**

Supervisor Burton W. Chace, who told leaders a year ago at the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet that he would back a move to establish a Superior Court in the Torrance area, has reaffirmed his stand to the committee.

**THE COUNTY** has already started work on locating the court for the Southwest District, Remelmeier said. A survey conducted for the County's chief administrative officer indicates that the present population center of the district is

located at the intersection of the plant have rejected the union as a bargaining agent several times in recent years. Harvey Aluminum is the only aluminum producer in recent years whose employees have rejected representation by any union, officials of the firm said.



DISCUSS COURT SITE . . . Supervisor Burton W. Chace (left) discusses need for Superior Court in the area with Mayor Albert Isen (right) and Atty. Boris S. Woolley, head of Torrance's Superior Court committee. The local committee has opened a campaign to secure establishment of a Superior Court branch in the area. (Herald Photo)

## Man Jailed After Cops Notice Loot

An ex-convict who was stopped by Torrance police on a traffic violation was jailed when arresting officers Gene Gillette and Gerald Snyder spotted burglary equipment and a large number of coins in the man's auto, detectives reported yesterday.

Lawrence Frederickson, 37, who was released from prison four months ago, has admitted at least seven burglaries in the central Torrance area, and may be responsible for more, according to Det. Myles Hamilton, who questioned him.

**ACCORDING TO Hamilton, Frederickson has admitted breaking into the American Legion hall three times recently, into the Back Bar twice, and has admitted the Mom and Don's and Deep Sand cafe burglaries last week.**

He is being held as a parole violator pending completion of charges against him here, police said.

**IN THE MEANTIME,** police are still searching for other burglars.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Pastor Dies In Crash, Rites Held

Funeral services were held in Fullerton this week for the Rev. Stanley Vernon Vandegrift, 39, of 2929 W. 167th St., who was killed Friday in an auto accident near San Bernardino.

The Rev. Mr. Vandegrift, enroute to attend a conference of youth in San Bernardino, was pastor of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Gardena. He had just begun his ministry there.

With him at the time of the crash was his wife, Pearl, who was unhurt.



CHOW CALL . . . S/Sgt. Ernest Hayes, local Marine recruiting noncom, is pictured delivering a box of groceries and an order for two weeks supply of food to Mrs. Vincent Gelger (third from left) and her six children. When husband was laid off work and then stricken with heart attack Leathernecks came to the aid of family, who live at 2318 W. 237th St., pending County help. Children are Cheryl, 9; Steven, 5; Mary Beth, nine months; Sandra, 12; Ellen, 2; and Cindy, 14. (Herald Photo)

## Marines Told About Need Of Family, Move Swiftly

By BOB WILTON  
Herald Staff Writer

This story was written by the Marine Corps. While an anonymous phone message was being given to a reporter, S/Sgt. Rick Rickman, local Marine

Corps recruiter, was in the HERALD office with a news release. The telephone call dealt with a Torrance family who was without food and needed immediate help. When Rickman returned to his office he and S/Sgt. Ernie Hayes launched a telephone campaign and by closing time Monday had established an account with the Quality Market, 2171 Torrance Blvd., and by dinner time there was food on the Vincent Geiger's table, at 2318 W. 237th St.

**GEIGER, 43,** was an aerodynamicist at Douglas Aircraft, El Segundo plant, but was laid off last March. He found temporary work and did odd jobs to feed his family, which includes six children ranging from nine months to 14 years of age.

Then without warning the World War II Air Force veteran had a heart attack Nov. 3 and has been a patient in the Veterans Hospital in Long Beach since.

**THINGS HAVE** been pretty rough at the Geigers since and payments on their home had to be put off in order to have food for the children. As a result there is a threat of foreclosure and they will lose their home unless they can refinance their loan, or sell their equity.

Contributors to the survival fund for the Geigers were Sure-Bite Fish Bait Co., \$5; George Mikel Richfield Station, \$2; Sports Club, \$2; T. W. King, \$2; L. W. Rock, \$2; Vurp's Cafe \$2; Black Bart, \$2.50; Joe's Shoe Shine, .50; Grisswood Construction, \$7; and Fox Market and Quality Market, food.

**THE COST** accounting department and the telephone operators of Harvey Aluminum have pledged a Christmas for the Geigers, including toys for the children, and they will be remembered by the Marine's Toys for Tots program.

There are again smiles on seven faces at 2318 W. 237th St., and courage in a heart that failed in the Veterans Hospital, for thanks to the people of Torrance there will be no short rations for this family until county aid is received.

## Rides on Book 'Educated' Owl City's Entry in Rose Parade

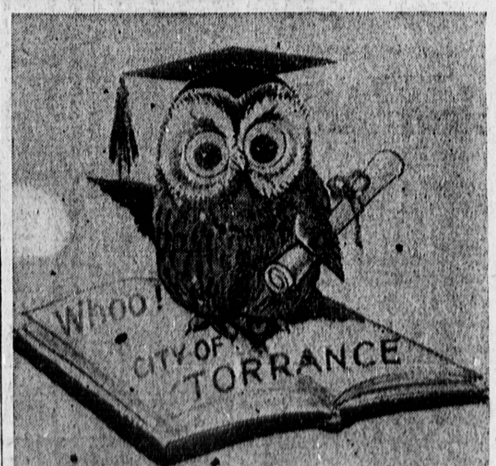
A multi-colored "Educated" Owl will be Torrance's entry in the Tournament of Roses Parade to be held in Pasadena on January 2, it was announced here by President R. S. Pyle of the sponsoring Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Pyle said the "Owl" entry would be titled "WHOO!", and he would be of unique construction. Most floats, Pyle added, are mounted on long, float-bed chassis—not so with the Torrance entry.

The "Owl," as yet unnamed, will ride down the line of march mounted on a 15-foot square text book. He will stand 15-feet high and will feature a diploma under his arm and a graduation cap on his head. For the first time for Torrance.

The float will feature a moving part, as the right eye will blink. Chamber officials said last year's "Choir Boy" float received unequalled photo coverage because of the "up and down" construction allowed for easier photography—hence, the repeat in design.

The float is once again being designed by the nation's "top" float designer—Mrs. Isabell Coleman of Altadena. Mrs. Margaret Clark will once again be decoration chairman, assisted by Kenny Uyeda. Mrs. Clark has been in charge of volunteer crews that captured first place awards for the past two years. The initial entry placed third.



PARADE ENTRY . . . Artist's sketch of the city's float design for the 1961 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena was released this week by sponsoring Chamber of Commerce. The otherwise static float will have one moving feature—the owl's right eye will blink.

# Christmas Sales Open Downtown

(See Special Section Starting on Page 15)