

Torrance Skindiver Dies from Bends on Catalina

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Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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TRIO HELD FOR MARKET ROBBERY

A Penny for your Thoughts

Learning that 30 neighbors living on Vista del Parque held a coffee klatch each week this question was asked five attending one Thursday morning.

"What benefits have you gained through these meetings?"

Mrs. John Mull, 156 Vista del Parque: "Getting together over coffee each week has given the neighborhood women an old fashioned small town friendliness not often found among neighbors living in the larger cities in California. We all enjoy these meetings."

Mrs. Tom Roach, 168 Vista del Parque: "Looking out to see our red flag with its gold coffee cup emblem gives one a wonderful, friendly feeling. It is always a surprise as we do not know what day or at whose house it will be held. I have made some close friends this way."

Mrs. Ernest Harris, 169 Vista del Parque: "Getting together for coffee one morning we learned that one of the girls was sick and we all pitched in to help with house work and cooking until she was well. We are all good neighbors through this contact."

Mrs. Gregory Schliter, 204 Vista del Parque: "We meet many people we wouldn't otherwise. I wouldn't know the neighbors in the next block were it not for this plan. They may speak or wave, but it takes a good cup of coffee to build the kind of friendships we enjoy."

Mrs. Geoffery Ward, 212 Vista del Parque: "Not only have we girls become good friends, but so have our husbands and children. We have family picnics and barbecues together and our children have become better friends than they would have without our weekly coffee breaks."

Thief Steals Saw
A thief who used a prying tool to open a tool chest stole a carpenter's power saw valued at \$300, Walter Tintle of the Ames Construction Co. told police Friday.

Attempts to Revive Diver Unsuccessful

Amateur skindiver Armand S. Blough became the third skin diving fatality in the southland in recent days when attempts to revive the 32-year-old Torrance man failed on Catalina Island Thursday morning. Blough was pronounced dead two hours after he was pulled from the water by a companion.

Permits Over \$13 Million

Building permits for the first six months period ended June 30 totaled \$13,949,364, according to figures released this week by the city building department. High month for the year was January when a total of \$3,439,911 in permits was issued.

Figure for the other months of the period are: Feb., \$1,204,260; March, \$2,720,809; April, \$2,444,802; May, \$2,623,296; and June, \$1,516,286.

Several large apartments were responsible for the January high, and apartment construction continued throughout most of the period.

Largest permit issued during the period was one for \$388,875 issued to Property Management for the construction of 20 residences.

Last Rites Held For Air Crash Victim

Requiem mass for 10-year-old Jason Gale, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jason Gale, 4614 Paseo de la Tortugas, was celebrated at the St. Lawrence Martyr Catholic Church.

The boy was among 17 persons killed Tuesday when a giant jet-liner crashed and burned in Denver. He was returning home from a vacation in Omaha, Neb.

Rosary was recited at the church Friday evening.

Surviving in addition to his parents are a sister, Janice, 12, and a brother, Steven, 9.

Joe Hanna, of 3327 W. 189th St., said the pair were diving off Goat Bay on the island when Blough had some difficulty with his oxygen tanks at the 60-foot level. Hanna went to Blough's aid and switched on his emergency air supply and Blough began to surface with everything apparently under control.

AT ABOUT 30 feet, said Hanna, Blough appeared to panic and shot for the surface. Hanna followed and saw the stricken man swimming for shore about 100 feet away. He swam after Blough, towed him to shore, and began artificial respiration.

A near-by yacht, the Media Buena, heard Hanna's calls for help and radioed Avalon for help. A Navy ship heard the SOS and sent a doctor, Lt. Cmdr. Donald Bautts, to the scene. Another doctor, Robert E. Staff, and a resuscitator unit were sent to Avalon, but two hours of work over Blough failed to revive him.

OFFICIALS said Saturday that Blough apparently died from the bends, rather than drowning, but a complete coronor's report was not available.

Blough was making his second dive after practicing in a pool with a SCUBA unit. He lived at 4728 Reynolds Dr.

Funeral services will be held at the Halverson - Leavell Chapel tomorrow at 11 a.m. Burial will follow at Inglewood Park Cemetery.

Dr. Hull To Help In U. S. Survey

Dr. J. H. Hull, Superintendent of Schools, has been asked by the U.S. Office of Education to assist in a study of re-education of the unemployed. He will confer with Howard Hjelm, a representative of the federal education office, Monday at USC.



NEW COMMANDER . . . Earle Sumpter (left) was installed commander of the Bert S. Crossland Post of the American Legion in ceremonies at the Legion hall, 1109 Border Ave., Friday night. He succeeds Stanley Helman (right) in the post. Here they are joined by Nathan Sommer, commander of the 19th District of the Legion. Sommer, a past commander of East Los Angeles Post 323, resides in Montebello. (Herald Photo)

Two Convicted Officer Killers Guilty

Jury of seven women and five men returned a verdict of first degree murder Friday in the killing of Richard D. Kent, Los Angeles policeman who lived in north Torrance.

Found guilty of the charge that they shot and killed Kent in a gun duel during an attempted auto parts store hold-up last December were Charles L. Pike, 27, and Richard D. Ceniceros, 35, 725 Garvey Ave., Monterey Park.

The jury will reconvene tomorrow in Judge Thomas C. Yeagar's Inglewood Superior Court to decide on the penalty. Kent was living at 18509 Spinning Ave., in north Torrance when the fatal shooting took place.

Tentative Tract Map On Council Agenda

City Council members are scheduled to consider tentative approval of Tract Map No. 28770, covering a 23-lot tract at Garnet and Entradero Sts., at their meeting Tuesday at 5:30 in the Council chambers. The map will be presented by Subdivider R. A. Watt.

Other matters which will

New Plant Opened by Dow Here

Operation of the Dow Chemical Co.'s new polypropylene plastics facilities in Torrance has begun "on a highly successful basis," according to Leland A. Doan, general manager of the company's Western Division. The facilities were built at a cost of several million dollars.

The plant is expected to be at full-scale operation within the next 60 days.

He explained that Dow Plastics Technical Service personnel are currently conducting tests on material produced at the new facility, and that material is available for additional sampling.

THE MOLDING materials field appears to be the likeliest initial area for material produced at the polypropylene plant. Doan noted, partly because of Dow's position as a major molding materials supplier.

W. C. Goggin, manager of Dow's Plastics dept., said that the new production facilities represent an important addition to Dow's family of polyolefin plastics, a field in which Dow has traditionally maintained a broad base.

Torrance facilities are first of their type for the western United States.

TORRANCE has been the main location of Dow's Western plastics production since 1953. Styron (polystyrene) and Styrofoam (rigid plastic foam) are (Continued on Page 2)

Police Stop Trio Trying To Flee U.S.

Three persons have been jailed here after arrests at the U.S.-Mexican border for questioning about the armed robbery of a Torrance market last Sunday.

Arrested at the border near San Diego on information broadcast by Torrance police were Charles E. Falk, 31, and his 23-year-old wife, Terry Jean who is expecting a child this fall. Also arrested was Joseph Edward Zack, 21. The Falks have been residing in WALTERIA.

THE TRIO was returned to Torrance Thursday by detectives who took custody of them from San Diego police.

Detectives said the Falk couple had been identified as two of the bandits which held up a market at 234th and Western Ave. Sunday escaping with more than \$1000. Witnesses have identified the Falk woman as driver of the get-away car.

ZACK, WHO told investigating officers that he was working at the time of the robbery, reportedly has been positively

identified as a participant also.

All three have denied implication in the holdup.

Det. Lt. Don Hamilton said the trio will probably be arraigned here in South Bay court Monday on robbery charges.

Man Shot In Lomita By Deputy

Sheriff's deputy Sam Rogers shot a Lomita man in the thigh early Friday morning when the man allegedly lunged at another deputy with a jagged stick.

Shot was Gerald LeRoy Shelton, 29, of 2146 W. 242nd St. He was admitted to the jail ward of Los Angeles County General Hospital.

DEPUTIES Rogers and Norman Erwin had gone to the house about midnight to investigate a call from Mrs. Madeline A. Caldwell, 19, who lives at the address.

Officers were told that Shelton had beaten Mrs. Caldwell when she came home with another man. Her 2-year-old son was still in the house.

WHEN THE deputies attempted to enter the house, Shelton struck Deputy Erwin with his fist and then smashed a redwood lattice and picked up a jagged piece, lunging at the deputy.

Shelton ran back into the house when he was shot, and the officers radioed for help. Five officers were called before Shelton was subdued. He is 6 feet 1 and weighs 240 pounds.

Last of Derricks Toppled

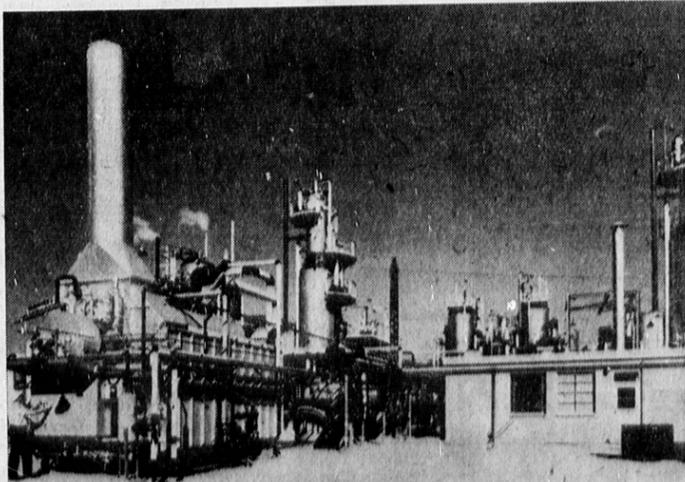
Last of more than 200 wooden oil derricks in the city came tumbling down last Thursday morning when H. R. Reed, of Huntington Beach, felled the derricks. The derrick was built at 231st St. and Pennsylvania Ave. in 1938, and was known as Son Well No. 1.

A city ordinance required that all derricks had to come down in a face-lifting project. Three steel derricks still are standing, but they, too, must come down.

For Reed it was the 115th derrick he has "thrown" since the program was begun. He was granted a few days grace by the city, which originally required all derricks to be down by July 1, because of illness.



OLD TIMBER . . . A pile of debris is all that remains of the old wooden derricks which dotted the city landscape a few years back. The final derrick was toppled Thursday morning. Located at 231st St., east of Pennsylvania Ave., it was built in 1938. The 136-foot derrick was felled by H. R. Reed, who has "thrown" 115 of the towers since the city ordinance became effective. (Herald Photo)



NEW PLASTICS PLANT . . . Production of polypropylene at the Dow Chemical Co. Torrance facilities has begun. The plant is expected to be in full-scale operation within the next 60 days according to Leland A. Doan, manager of the Dow Chemical Western Division. The facilities are the first of their kind in the western United States.