

Torrance Herald



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PAIR ROB STATION ATTENDANT

Ask for Gas, Oil, Leave With Money

Two men, one of them armed with a revolver, took about \$30 from a service station attendant here early yesterday after showing the attendant a gun and asking, "Do you know what this is?"

Gary Diffe, who lives at 1716 W. 256th St., Lomita, told Torrance officers he was on duty at a station at 2705 Pacific Coast Hwy. when the two men drove in and asked for three dollars' worth of gas.

After putting gas in the 9-year-old car, Diffe said he was checking oil and told them they needed three quarts. The men ordered the oil, and Diffe had put in one quart and had started the second quart when one of the suspects pulled the gun, he told officers.

The two men took money from the island cash boxes, but declined to take money from Diffe. "We don't want your money, just the station's," one of them said to the attendant.

After warning Diffe not to make any phone calls, the pair left, he said.

Work Starts On School In Lomita

Construction has started on a \$449,000 project which will add 16 classrooms at Lomita Elementary School, 2211 W. 247th St., it was announced this week by Superintendent of Schools Jack P. Crowther.

Carter-Mack Builders, Inc., of Harbor City will handle construction of 12 regular classrooms and four kindergarten classrooms at the school, which has an enrollment of 1,065 with 130 youngsters attending on a half day basis.

The contract includes \$395,310 for new buildings, \$38,690 for alternations and improvements to existing facilities at the school, and \$15,000 for ground improvements.

The Carter-Mack bid was the lowest of 12 received on the project, ranging from \$449,000 to \$493,000.

The remodeling program includes addition of a library in the main building.

Plans and specifications for the project were designed by the architectural firm of Orr, Strange, Insee and Senefeld. Funds for the project were approved by district voters in the 1960 school bond building program.

Sentences Due

Sentencing of Perry J. Hensley, 22, of 21909 S. Avalon Blvd., and a Long Beach companion who pleaded guilty of detonating bombs in Long Beach last month, has been set for March 14.

Seek Girl Missing Nine Days

Information on the whereabouts of a 17-year-old Torrance High School girl who has been missing from her home since Jan. 25 is being sought by Torrance police.

Marian Theresa Arenas, daughter of John Arenas, 814 Sartori Ave., apparently left home without extra clothing or money, police say. She was described as 5 feet, 4 inches tall and weighing about 120 pounds.

Police have no description of the way she was dressed when she left, they say.

Reports that the girl made a job application in Long Beach last week are being checked out now, according to Officer Cliff Smith of the police juvenile bureau.



ORIGINAL STYLE . . . Cub Scout Richard Tilley, 21519 Budlong Ave., member of Pack 228-C, gets some tips on winter sports from Vicki Koster, 1962 Snow Queen, and Chris Christensen, chief of U. S. Olympic Ski Patrol, while Scout Don Holcombe, 1613 W. 227th St., looks on amazed. The boys are selling tickets to the March sports and vacation show to benefit scouting activities.

Suspect Held For Hit-Run, Theft of Car

A 24-year-old Redondo Beach man was jailed early yesterday on suspicions of auto theft and hit-run driving after a car stolen a few minutes earlier was crashed into the parked vehicle of a Torrance resident.

Arrested a few blocks away about 15 minutes after the collision was James V. Gordon of 903 Lillenthal Lane, who was observed by officers as he walked across a bank parking lot at 190th Street at Anza Avenue shortly after 2 a.m. yesterday.

Guard to Assemble For Test

All California Army and Air National Guardsmen will be summoned to their armories sometime in February when they will again take part in a statewide practice assembly, Maj. Gen. Roderic L. Hill, state adjutant general, announced yesterday.

General Hill said approximately 23,000 California Guardsmen, including members of the California National Guard Reserve, will participate in the surprise assembly, to be known as "Operation Can-Do." "Operation Can-Do" will test plans and the speed and efficiency with which the California Army and Air National Guard and the CNGR can be ready for service in the event of a state or national emergency. This year's exercise will emphasize the National Guard's mission in support of Civil Defense," General Hill added.

POLICE HAD been called to the area of Entradero and Wilma after a car belonging to Joseph O'Brien, 5301 Wilma, was struck by a vehicle apparently taken from a nearby street.

Owner of the second car, a 6-year-old station wagon, was listed as Robert Block who lived at 5212 Towers. He told police he last saw his car parked in front of his house a few hours before the crash.

Witnesses to the accident told police they saw a young man jump out of the station wagon and run away.

OFFICERS Eugene Bailleul and William Poling, who were searching the area for the suspect, noticed Gordon crossing the bank lot at 190th and Anza.

Gordon told the officer he had been let out of a friend's car at Torrance Boulevard and Anza and was walking home. He said he had been walking fast because he was cold and in a hurry to get home.

Car, Truck Collide; One Hurt

Driver of a foreign model sedan suffered minor injuries Thursday evening in a two-car collision on Pacific Coast Highway in front of 3124.

Injured was Marybell Kathryn Vaughn, 49, Long Beach. Driver of the other vehicle, owned by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, was Tom Edwin Witt, 58, of 408 Via La Selva.

The injured driver was treated at Little Company of Mary Hospital. Her car received rear-end damage and the sedan driven by Witt, front-end damage.

Industrialist John Spalding Retires; Merkley Named

John D. Spalding, works manager of the Torrance plant, National Supply Division, Armco Steel Corp., has retired after more than 33 years service. He will be succeeded by Glenn C. Merkley.

Spalding started with National Supply in 1923 at a plant then operated at Carnegie, Pa. Later engineering assignments took him to the Toledo plant and then to the Torrance plant. He became works manager at Torrance in 1938. During 1944 he was given a temporary assignment as works manager of the engine plant at Springfield, Ohio, but returned to the Torrance plant as works manager in 1945.

HE HAS been a registered patent attorney since 1932 and a registered mechanical engineer in California since 1948. He is a member of the American Petroleum Institute and a director of the American Ordnance Assn., the Merchants and Manufacturers Assn. of Los Angeles, the Quarter Century Club of Los Angeles, and Junior Achievement of Los Angeles County, Inc. He has presented the Silver Knight Trophy of the National Management Assn.

Spalding attended George Washington University. He has a mechanical engineering degree from Carnegie Institute of

Technology and a law degree from Duquesne University. Merkley started at the plant in 1922 and had a series of shop and field assignments. In 1935 he began an extensive

sales career in oil field and industrial products that took him to various parts of the United States. Since 1956 he has been plant manager at Torrance.

Nurse Celebrates 40th Year In White; Tells Experience

By DARRELL MADDOX Herald Staff Writer

Days when a nurse labored until her work was done even if it took 14 hours or more were recalled this week by supervisor at Torrance Memorial Hospital who has completed 40 years of nursing.

The one C. Thomas of 2205 1/2 Torrance Boulevard started her nursing career in 1922 at Des Moines General Hospital. Since that time she has worked in some 20 hospitals between Des Moines and the West Coast.

SHE HAS been at Torrance Memorial since 1945, was nurse supervisor in 1947 and is in charge of nurses, aids and orderlies on the afternoon shift. Wednesday was the anniversary of her first day as a nurse, and she spent it just as she spent that first day 40 years ago — in the white of a nurse, tending the sick.

SHE WENT to work as usual Wednesday afternoon, but did enjoy one break in the routine when other nurses and staff members gathered in the

hospital lunchroom about 7 p.m. to present her a corsage and a large sheet cake inscribed with best wishes for her.

Vast changes in medication over the years is the biggest change Miss Thomas has seen in her profession. Working conditions for the nurse have also changed. Nurses used to work until their work was done. Now they work an eight-hour day, she said.

WHAT does the future old for nurses? Automation might someday be a big help, she said. One thing that has helped the nurses job, Miss Thomas added, is the fact that now patients get up and care for themselves soon after having surgery. Patients used to be put in bed and they stayed there a week or so where they were waited on hand and foot, she said.

Miss Thomas was talked into entering nursing by her grandmother who served as a midwife and practical nurse. "I liked nursing as soon as I got started and I still do. I'd



MISS THEONE C. THOMAS, RN Celebrates 40 Years of Nursing

A Penny for your Thoughts

Assemblywoman Pauline L. Davis (D-Portola) authored the state's first roadside rest program but the program has not been too successful because of its cost. She is now investigating the possibility of obtaining federal funds to get roadside rests off to a new start. The Pennies photographer asked, "What do you think of the idea of establishing roadside rest stops in which there would be a picnic table and some shade?"

Herbert Crotty, International Falls, Minn.:

"I think it would be a splendid idea because we have them in Minnesota and tourists are taking advantage of them, especially people with children."

James Parsons, 24738 Senator Ave., Harbor City:

"An excellent idea. We are taxed for everything else. I don't know why they couldn't tax us for roadside rests to finance them. Roadside rest stops would be a help. I know, when I am on vacation and traveling."

Mrs. Vern Baergen, 1922 Galerita Dr., Eastview:

"I think roadside rest stops are a good idea. Only problem is some people might not keep them very clean. When traveling, children get restless and it's a good idea to let them run off energy."

Rev. Charles T. Hughes Jr., 115 W. 226th Place:

"Good, especially for tourists traveling through the Southern California area and also for families who could stop for awhile. I would like to see them established because they would be nice for families traveling a great distance."

Mrs. Richard Thurber, 1541 W. 248th St., Harbor City:

"I am all in favor of it. For one thing if you are traveling with children it is nice to stop. We have driven across the United States twice and found them in Indiana and Missouri. These two states stand out in my mind because we used the rest stops there."

Lawyer to Be Club Speaker

Fred W. Benson, a deputy district attorney for the county, will speak on "The Humor of Law Practice" at a meeting of the Torrance Kiwanis Club Monday at 1925 W. Carson St. Benson, 31, received his law and master's degrees at the University of Michigan. He teaches adult education classes for the Torrance and South Bay school districts.

Two More Enter Council Contest

Two more names have been added to the official slate for the April 10 City Council election and one more added for city clerk, it was reported here Friday evening.

Filing nomination petitions for the City Council posts were James Cicchini, 1407 Crenshaw Blvd., and William Steele, 826 Cranbrook Ave.

Rose Craig, who had announced earlier that she would be a candidate for the city clerk's post, made it official Friday by filing petitions to have her name placed on the ballot.

Others showing interest in the contests during the week end include Earl Sumpter, 21509 Ladeane Ave., who received a petition for the city clerk's post; Robert White, 3242 Torrance Blvd., who took out two petitions, one for the

city council and one for mayor; and Nat Mondati, 3125 Sonoma, who did not state the purpose of the petition.

Potential candidates have until noon, Feb. 15, to file nomination petitions, according to Gale Whitacre, who is acting city clerk for the election.

At stake are the offices of the mayor, three councilmen, city clerk, and city treasurer.

In The Herald Today

Table listing various sections and their page numbers: BOOKS, ROYCE BRIER, COMICS, CROSSWORD, DELAPLANE, DORIS, EDITORIALS, WILLIAM HOGAN, REYNOLDS KNIGHT, ANN LANDERS, LEGAL NOTICES, REG MANNING, CHARLES McCABE, COUNT MARCO, MORNING REPORT, OBITUARIES, O'FLAHERTY, OUT OF THE PAST, PTA NEWS, SIGHT AND SOUND, SOCIETY, SPORTS, STAR GAZER, TELEVISION, TRAVEL, WANT ADS.