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OFFICE AND PLANT, 1619 GRAMERCY AVE. — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1963

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TRUCK-CAR CRASH KILLS MAN

Car Dragged By Huge Rig After Crash

A Torrance man died shortly after noon yesterday in a spectacular crash at 190th Street and Van Ness Avenue. Dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital was William Henry Bauer, 47, of 2143 W. 180th Pl. Bauer died when his automobile, a late model station wagon collided with a truck driven by Donald Eugene Jones, 49, of Lakewood. The Bauer vehicle was southbound on Van Ness Avenue at the time of the accident.

Investigating Officer Lee Graber of the Torrance Police Department, said the traffic division has been unable to determine exactly what happened. The truck, owned by the L. R. Denney Co. of Paramount, was headed east on 190th Street.

APPARENTLY, the station wagon was dragged several feet after the impact. The truck jack-knifed and jumped a curb at the northeast corner of 190th Street, shearing off a tree and ripping up a small fence. No damage to the house on the corner was visible.

Jones suffered minor injuries, but apparently was not hospitalized. The accident occurred about 12:15 p.m., and traffic was routed around the scene while wrecking crews worked to move the truck.

Detectives Searching For Archer

Torrance police are still seeking a mysterious nighttime archer who shot a 40-year-old housewife Monday evening while she was working in her kitchen.

Mrs. Reta Lamperth, 3236 Danaha St., said she was preparing a softdrink for her daughter and a playmate when the arrow whizzed through the screen door of her kitchen and struck her in the thigh. The arrow narrowly missed her daughter and the playmate, Teresa Terry, 6.

The attractive housewife fell to the floor screaming with intense pain from the 30-inch big-game arrow. The daughter, Linda, ran next door to tell a neighbor, Mrs. Herbert Johnson of 3240 Danaha St.

MRS. JOHNSON said she sent Linda to call another neighbor while she rushed to the Lamperth home. Mrs. Lamperth was lying on the floor when Mrs. Johnson entered. She called out, "My God, I've been shot. Help me."

The wounded woman was taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital with the arrow still in her. X-rays were made and doctors confirmed the position of the arrow. Surgery was needed to remove the 2 1/4-inch bladed head.

Detective Joe Capriotti described the arrow as a lethal weapon, saying it was the type used in deer hunting in Southern California. As yet, Capriotti said, there is no explanation for the mysterious shooting.

Man Held As Bandit, Dope User

An alleged parole violator nabbed here Sunday evening with his comely wife after their actions aroused suspicions among market personnel and customers at a South Torrance food store has been identified by victims of robberies in Bell and Bellflower as the bandit involved, it was reported here yesterday.

Facing similar check in Van Nuys today is 30-year-old Jerome Leo Graham, who used an alias of Jerry Grazzo among others. Graham was arrested with Carol Graham (Grazzo), 24, when he was seen passing a large handgun to her in a market at Crenshaw Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway Sunday evening.

Police, searching a Harbor City apartment occupied by the couple, found a supply of narcotics, several coin bags from markets, and paraphernalia for administering narcotics, including hypodermic type needles, burnt spoons, and others. Graham was scheduled to appear in Van Nuys court Monday to face charges of assault with intent to kill and attempted armed robbery.

Lions White Cane Drive Aids Blind

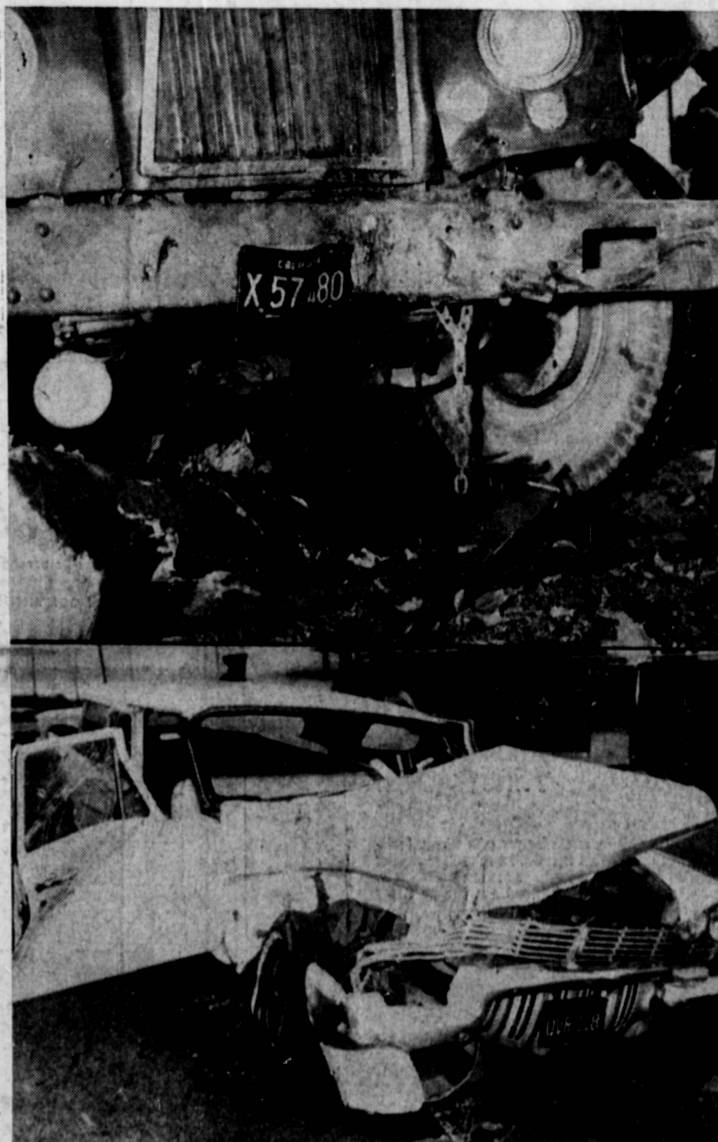
Local Lions Clubs will join clubs throughout the world on White Cane Days, tomorrow and Saturday, to collect contributions to aid the blind.

White Cane funds provide many requirements of the blind and sight-impaired: seeing-eye dogs, diagnosis, medical care, glasses, surgery, Braille training, Braille writers and special training and recreation for blind children.

The program, put in practice by a single Lions Club in 1951, operates on volunteer energy, even to the manufacture of the white lapel canes.

Today 400 Lions Clubs in California and Nevada alone, involving some 12,000 members, participate and currently sponsor blind research equipment and facilities.

Lions Club members and their families will circulate in the community wearing ribbon and insignia to dispense White Canes to contributors tomorrow and Saturday. Or, a contribution may be sent to Torrance Lions Club, 1223 Cravens Ave., or South Torrance Lions Club, in care of Don Malone, 139 Via Los Altos, Redondo Beach.



DEATH VEHICLES . . . Participants in a spectacular noon-time crash yesterday that killed one man were these two vehicles. Shown in the top photo is the truck driven by Donald Eugene Jones of Lakewood. The truck jumped a curb and sheared off a large tree after the impact. In the bottom photo is the station wagon which William Henry Bauer was driving. Bauer died in the crash. Officers are still trying to determine the exact succession of events. (Herald Photos)

Sciarrotta Changes Vote on Ordinance

During a stormy session Tuesday evening, the City Council reversed itself and voted down an ordinance which would have opened examinations for police and fire chief to men from other California cities.

The vote, which was 4-2 in favor of the ordinance, precipitated a loud and unruly session as tempers were frayed by the narrow defeat of the change. A total of five affirmative votes is necessary to approve the ordinance.

The council also had before it a recommendation from the Civil Service Commission to open the examinations only to the first three ranks in each of the local departments. The Civil Service Commission, which met Monday to consider the change, had received the ordinance after the council referred it to them last week.

PROVISIONS IN the City Charter require consideration of such changes by the Civil Service Commission. Opponents of the ordinance have argued that such changes would destroy morale in the departments. They have argued that there is no need to go outside the city for chiefs. Proponents of changes say the purpose is to get the best man available for the top positions. All have continually argued that if the best man for the job is a local man, there should be no fear of competition. Councilman Ross Sciarrotta, who had voted in favor of the plan on its initial consideration two weeks ago, cast the deciding vote. Sciarrotta told the council he was "ready to vote on three-fourths of the ordinance now." He asked to have the ordinance changed to open the examinations to the top three ranks of the fire department only.

SCIARROTTA CITED recent

difficulties in the police department, and maintained the timing was wrong for such a change in the police department. During discussion of the ordinance, Mrs. Lawrence Sommers of 1621 Flower St., niece of Assistant Police Chief M. H. Porter, remarked that the proposed change made "Torrance look like a second-class city." She asked, "Haven't we groomed anyone for the top positions?" and continued, "We have a good system if it is applied properly." George Vico, in answer to Mrs. Sommers, said, "Competition is good. The more men take the examination, the more the local man will be respected if he scores high." Vico also said any local man who scores

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Council Strikes Out (An Editorial)

Citizens of Torrance lost a battle Tuesday night they should have won. They lost by forfeit.

With the impending retirement of Fire Chief J. J. Benner at the end of this year, city councilmen had moved on the recommendation of City Manager Wade Peebles and the City Council's fire and police committee to change ordinances governing selection of the chief officers of the fire and police department to permit top men from other California cities to enter the competition.

The theory—and it should be the practice—is to get the best man available whether from the local ranks or from elsewhere to fill the two jobs in the city ranked by many as the most important.

But defeat of the proposal by two members of the City Council leads us to wonder why the citizens of Torrance shouldn't receive the best possible leadership for these two departments. Perhaps the best leadership is available among the local department, but who will ever know when only one man is eligible in the fire department, and only two men in the police department under the current regulations?

The HERALD believes the City Council has operated more like a village council at times, and that it erred when it voted to perpetuate a system of personnel selection which has led to present problems. It's a case of a horse and buggy philosophy in the jet age.

Opposing the opening of examinations to "outsiders" were Councilmen Ross A. Sciarrotta Jr. and J. A. Beasley. Councilmen Nicholas O. Drale has consistently opposed the move, too, but was away from the city Tuesday.

Sciarrotta's proposal that the fire department procedures be split from the police department is a prime example of the village system. It is just such a patch work of policies, growing over the years as the city's departments grew, which can be blamed for much of the muddle which exists in personnel policies of Torrance. Instead of a concise, clear-cut policy backed by proper ordinance, the city's civil service rules consist of a series of amendments upon amendments which would confuse a firm of Philadelphia lawyers.

Loser in the decision is the large body of citizens and taxpayers to whom the City Council and each of the city's departments must answer. Fire Chief Benner set the tone of opposition recently when he told councilmen that he had "wasted his time," if examinations were to be opened to those outside the department.

We disagree. While we believe Chief Benner has done a good job, he has not received title to the department. It still belongs to the citizens and he is their steward. The same applies to the police department—actually the focal point in the controversy. The department belongs to the citizens, not Chief Percy Bennett or any heirs-apparent. Nor does either department belong to the City Council, although that may be more difficult to prove on the stand.

Support for closed examinations, voiced by relatives and backers of those in the departments now, can be understood. But bowing to that loyalty by members of the City Council can not. Their obligations lie with all the people of Torrance, not the few who rise to pursue objectives in their own interest.

Land Costs

College Decision Snagged Again

A final decision on the site of South Bay State College has again been postponed by the State Board of Public Works. In putting off the decision, the board ordered a survey of land costs on the Peninsula.

The board also agreed to accept a study from Torrance about land costs for the Crenshaw and Sepulveda site.

The Torrance study will be accepted provided it doesn't cost the state anything. Councilman Nicholas Drale, in Sacramento for the hearing, said the material is available at no cost to the city or state.

THE PUBLIC Works Board also decided to confer with the Board of Trustees of the State Colleges to decide if a smaller campus would be acceptable. Cost of land on the Peninsula, which has skyrocketed since deliberations on the college site began 20 months ago, has been one of the deciding factors in the long debate.

Drale, who went to Sacramento with City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier and Councilman J. A. Beasley, said hope that Torrance may eventually be selected as the site for South Bay State College is not dead. He suggested that the Torrance site could be acquired for \$4.9 million, and construction around oil wells would save additional monies. "There isn't anything wrong with a few oil wells in the (Continued on Page 2)

A Penny for your Thoughts

United Way, Inc., is now beginning its first Los Angeles area drive, so the Pennies Photographer asked several residents, "What do you think about the United Way combination of charities in the Los Angeles area?"

Mrs. Joseph Regan, 2338 W. 239th St.

"I think it is a good way to go about the annual charity drives, but I would like to see even more combinations. One drive cuts down the administrative costs and more of what is given goes for charity and not salaries or posters."

Harry Kersten, 25045 Eshelman Ave.

"I think it's marvelous because United Way does a lot of good in the Los Angeles area. I really would like to see United Way done more like AID, where one donation covers all major charities for the year."

Mrs. Leonard Wilson, 2754 Dalemead St.

"It is a wonderful idea. I think there are so many fine charities and so often one gives to one but not to another. This way, one gift helps all. If there are too many drives, people stop giving anything."

Mrs. Russel Coleman, 264 Dalemead St.

"I think United Way is a good idea, but I would like to have all major charities—heart fund, cancer drive, M.S.—all combined into one major drive. United Way does a tremendous job and it is a great way to conduct the drives."

Mrs. Leo Julian, 2819 Dalemead St.

"I like the idea of United Way. It is a real step toward a combination of all major drives into one appeal. The one drive makes it easier to get volunteers to work, and it makes it easier for people to give."

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