

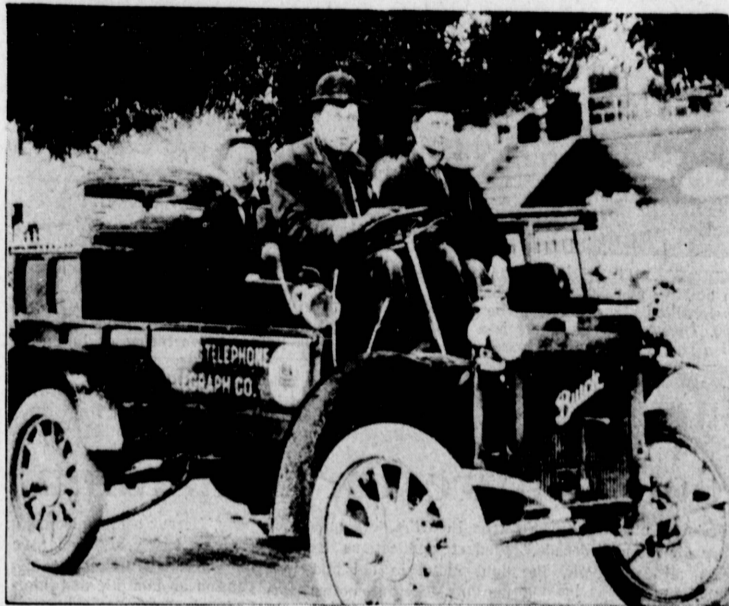
TORRANCE - 1914 - 1964

THE REMARKABLE YEARS

FROM THEN TO NOW—Fifty years ago, Torrance was a sleepy small town, its "modernization" limited to handful of those newfangled horseless machines that thundered down a lethargic Cabrillo Avenue, disturbing the peace only of a half dozen oldtimers and twice that many chickens that clucked discontentedly in the dust that trailed behind.

Today, the fourth largest city in Los Angeles County (11th largest in the state), Torrance boasts 123,000 residents—410 times more than in those horse-and-buggy days—33 elementary schools, 4 high schools, burgeoning industry and a steady influx of 500 newcomers each month.

An increasingly attractive industrial and business climate continues to lure potential new companies, eager to locate in a city fast gaining recognition as an industrial and space capital of the world. And a climate of another kind—turning Torrance into a year-round outdoor playground—keeps on wooing the lover of "the good life."



Then



Police Car—Today



Corner Hawthorne Blvd. & Artesia—1950



Corner Hawthorne Blvd. & Artesia—Today

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DECADE MAKES—For practical purposes, let's forget the first 40 years. Let's take a good, hard look at the past decade—those 10 years have brought more to Torrance than all the first 40 combined:

A forward-looking City Council, seeing its small town blossoming into something new and exciting, envisioned a Civic Center to serve the needs of tomorrow. Thus, in 1956, residents saw a new City Hall, a municipal plunge, and a police building. It was this same inspired leadership that won for itself recognition that same year with the announcement Torrance had become one of six coveted All America Cities.

Soon to follow were the Municipal Court building in 1959, a desperately needed annex to overcrowded courtroom facilities; the City Hall annex in 1961, easing the crowding there that understandably comes with mushrooming growth.

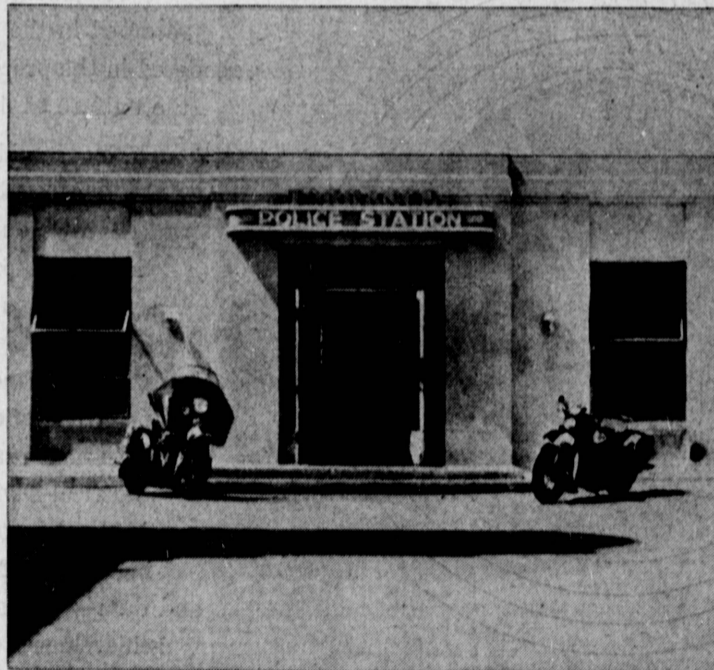
A gift of \$75,000 in 1963 matched by city funds made possible the Joslyn Recreation Center dedicated this month on the Civic Center site. The new social and cultural center will provide untold hours of diversion for the city's adult population.

IT TAKES NO MORE than a cursory glance across Torrance's sprawling expanse to see that there's plenty yet to come. Conservative estimates predict 180,000 residents in Torrance before the next decade expires.

Soon, Torrance will surpass Glendale to become the county's third largest city, and the last of the wide-open spaces that lie dormant now, someday soon will hold new homes, new industry, new recreation facilities, new life blood for a city that can't help growing.

Like their predecessors of 1956, today's city councilmen are looking to the future. They talk about a municipal auditorium, continued development of Civic Center as a cultural-governmental site surpassed by almost none, stepped-up work to prepare Torrance for tomorrow.

An aggressive city administration coupled with a dedicated City Council have begun to chip methodically away at the problems of an era now almost forgotten. As the months unfold, so will new plans and dreams that will make Torrance truly a city of tomorrow.



Police Department—1939



City Hall—Today



YOUR CITY COUNCIL HAILS 50 YEARS OF PROGRESS!

J. A. BEASLEY
DAVID K. LYMAN

ALBERT ISEN, Mayor
KENNETH MILLER
H. TED OLSON

ROSS SCIARROTTA
GEORGE VICO