

THE TORRANCE PRESS
In Our New Home

Reflecting the growth of Torrance and responding to the demand of our readers, advertisers and the community for greater service and a better newspaper, the Torrance Press now is "at home" in its third location since establishing here nearly four years ago.

The Torrance Press office now is located at 1406 Cravens avenue, in quarters sufficient in size to house a newspaper composing room as well as our advertising, news and circulation departments.

The Torrance Press has outgrown two other locations since it was established in this thriving city. We will continue to grow with Torrance and the surrounding area, fulfilling the need of the community for a newspaper which serves all the people.

Our telephone numbers remains the same: Torrance 1185 and 1186.

Office hours remain the same: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The faithful support of this growing community has given impetus and incentive to the Torrance Press publishers and staff to redouble our efforts to serve every part of the greater Torrance area.

Our doors are open to all.

This is your newspaper. Come in and see us.

Torrance Hardware Features Free Gifts

Today marks the first of a three-day "Torrance Hardware Expansion Event" celebration at the new store located at 1513 Cabrillo Avenue. Formerly contained within one building at 1515 Cabrillo, the business this week expanded into the adjacent store. Modern decor, streamlined appointments, and the huge variety of merchandise make the new store a distinctive addition to the Torrance shopping center.

Row upon row of shelves contain every hardware need, whether it be in housekeeping, home improvement, gardening, plumbing, or electrical work. An added feature is a wide selection of sporting goods, and a section devoted to toys that would please the heart of any child.

Charles V. Jones, owner of Torrance Hardware Co., announced that the store will be an official agency for Shopsmith woodworking tools, and Shop Master and Porter-Cable power tools.

Gifts are being given to the ladies during the opening celebration, and all kiddies will receive balloons.

The event will be climaxed with a drawing for eight lovely door prizes Saturday evening at 7:00. Among the prizes to be given is a Mix-Master, two elec-

(Continued on Page Two)

Two Resign From Civil Defense Posts

Charges of lack of co-operation were leveled at George Powell, Torrance assistant director of Civil Defense, this week when two officials of the North Torrance Civil Defense program resigned.

James T. Gray, who quit his post as Chief Warden of the North Torrance area, accused Powell of "undermining all my efforts to organize this area."

"If Powell had spent a few more years in the armed services he would realize the importance of co-operation in establishing an effective Civil Defense set-

(Continued on Page Two)

Worst Korean Navy Disaster Takes Life of George Costa

Tragic news of the death of her husband was this week received by Mrs. Norma Costa of 2756 Gramercy. Gunner's Mate 1/c George Costa was among the 30 men killed in the explosion of a gun turret on the heavy cruiser St. Paul.

The explosion which occurred during combat operations off the coast of Korea has been named the worst naval disaster of the Korean war.

Aboard the ship in Korean waters since last November, the 30-year-old Costa was due home in June for a visit with his wife and their three children, Ethel, 10; Sharron, 8; and Georgina, 17 months. The older children are students of the Nativity Catholic School.

The family moved to Torrance from Stockton 2 1/2 years ago when Costa was assigned to the St. Paul. Costa had been in the Navy for 14 years.

Besides his wife and children, Costa also leaves his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. S. Costa of Fall River, Mass., and three brothers and three sisters, all residents of Massachusetts.

Business Firms Back Blood Drive

Because of the urgent need of civilian donations of blood for the armed service, local manufacturers, business firms, and professional men and women have joined in making an educational campaign to assist in the collection of blood from this area.

The appeal for donors will be made in a series of announcements made in this newspaper during the coming weeks, urging the public to fill out and send in the front page coupon for the visit of the American Red Cross Mobile blood unit.

The Press urges its readers to call attention of friends and neighbors to these announcements.

COUPON

YES . . . I WILL GIVE A PINT OF BLOOD FOR OUR BOYS IN KOREA.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Time of Day Most Convenient _____

Mail Coupon to
AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS
1754 Torrance Blvd. Torrance, Calif.

DEMAND FOR BUS SERVICE TO HARBOR CITY RENEWED



SERVING TORRANCE, LOMITA, SHOESTRING, HARBOR CITY AND KEYSTONE

VOLUME IV TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1952 5c Per Copy NO. 3

Curb Meters Dead Issue Here

AUTHORITY SEEKS AUTO PARK AREAS

Parking meters will not produce revenue sufficient to purchase off-street parking facilities for the City of Torrance, and they are a dead issue so far as the Torrance Parking Authority is concerned.

This was the conclusion drawn at the special public hearing of the Parking Authority last Thursday where results of a survey on the ever-growing needs of off-street parking in this city was the principal topic of conversation.

Albert Isen, lawyer who narrowly missed being elected to the City Council at the April 8 election, running fourth on the ticket with three offices open, and who conducted the referendum petition drive which caused the former City Council to kill an ordinance already adopted which would bring about installation of parking meters, was a principal spokesman from the audience. He urged immediate action to study the parking situation to the end that all available area might be utilized to care for customers' cars.

Another spokesman from the group of local business men at the meeting was Bernard Lee, owner of Bernard's Family Shoe Store, who declared that parking meters are not the answer to the problem, and who pointed out that patrons of stores should not have to pay for their own parking.

The members of the Parking Authority ended all discussion on parking meters with the statement that they realize that they are not a source of revenue sufficient to buy off-street parking lots, nor are they the "answer" to the growing shortage of available space in Torrance.

Isen urged a study to determine

(Continued on Page Two)

Beasley Urges Larger Vote in School Election

"There must be an end to double sessions in our schools," said J. Austin Beasley, candidate for the Board of Education in the coming election, at a meeting of voters in Pacific Hills Monday night.

He also stressed the need for closer co-operation and better relations between the Board and parents of children attending Torrance schools.

The meeting, held at the home of Mrs. Rosemary Yarborough, Pacific Hills civic leader, was attended by Mrs. M. Wright, C. Pendleton, M. Ward, D. Carlson, R. Osborn, H. Essex, M. Schwartz, and R. Menger.

Beasley urged the audience to participate fully in the coming election, and to urge their friends and relatives take their part, too, at the polls on May 16.

Avalon-Carson Gets Colorado Water if Annexation Passes

Public hearing on the petition for annexation of the Keystone-Carson area to the West Basin Water District will be conducted by the Water District Board of Directors at the District office, 1233 Hermosa Avenue, Hermosa Beach, next Monday, May 5, at 3:00 p.m.

If successful the annexation will allow persons living in county territory bounded by Wilmington on the south, Compton on the north, Shoestring on the west, and Long Beach on the east, to use water imported from the Colorado river.

This area is now being supplied largely by the Dominguez Water Corp. The annexation will permit the corporation to tap Colorado water from Metropolitan water district lines when and if local pumping is curtailed by the courts.

Carl Fossette, secretary of the West Basin water district, reports that approximately 25,000 live in the area being annexed. He indicated this week that there is no opposition to the petition, and the annexation is expected to be successful.



Greetings from America are being extended to the Chinese President, Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek (center) by Rev. Russell Killman of the First Baptist Church of Torrance (right), in the first official interview with the President ever accorded to a missionary. Government spokesman S. C. Chen (left) arranged the interview. Killman reported that no personal cameras were permitted in the room during the meeting. This photo was taken by an official Chinese photographer.

STEEL STRIKE ON AS COURT HITS SEIZURE

Columbia Steel started cooling its furnaces Tuesday night after 1,400 Torrance steel workers and other steel workers throughout the U. S. were ordered off the job by CIO boss Phillip Murray. The orderly shut-down came after Federal Judge David A. Pine ruled President Truman's seizure of the steel industry unconstitutional.

Pine granted five major steel companies an anti-seizure injunction, which prevents Secretary of Commerce Sawyer from further carrying out Truman's April 8th seizure order.

United States Steel, of which the Columbia-Geneva plant here is a division, was not among the steel companies granted the injunction, but company officials said that U. S. Steel will seek a similar anti-seizure order this week.

At the time the Press closed its doors, for this edition, eight pickets were on duty at the Torrance plant, and local union officials indicated that the steel workers would hold out for their demands, even at the cost of a lengthy strike.

Child Injured As Car, School Bus Collide

Only one injury resulted when a car rammed into a school bus, Friday afternoon, at Hawthorne Blvd., and 227th street.

Verda Foster, 22504 Ocean avenue, received minor cuts on her face and lips. No other injuries were reported, according to Torrance police.

James E. Weese, 1021 Cravens avenue, the driver of the vehicle which hit the bus, was not cited, police said.

Bus driver was Willard E. Irwin, 1408 Engracia avenue,

Darby Backs Plan For Big Play Area

Supervisor Raymond V. Darby is tremendously interested in seeing to it that county aid is accorded any plan offered by the City of Torrance for development of a vast recreation area flood control program in the "Walteria sump" area — the often flooded land west of Hawthorne boulevard between Pacific Coast highway and Sepulveda boulevard.

Darby assured a group of Walteria citizens last night at the Fish Shanty that his efforts would be directed to the end that the gigantic park and recreation program as proposed get all the county and state aid possible.

Councilmen Nick Drale and Vic Benstead are proponents of the development program which would convert the dangerous flood-water sump into a permanent recreation area. This was one of the platforms of the BID ticket.

The plan would include a lake which would permit seepage of the water back into underground streams while providing boating and casting for sports lovers.

Reclaimed territory could be used for a park, golf course, playgrounds, tennis courts and other recreation facilities.

The county long has been aware of the menace of the flood conditions which occur during heavy rains, Darby said, but drainage is a difficult thing. Building of a tunnel to the ocean would be costly, and that construction of a storm drain to connect with the flood control

(Continued on Page Two)

Western Brass Plant Started

Construction of a \$250,000 manufacturing plant and office building of the Western Brass Works got under way this week. The buildings which will have a total floor space of 100,000 square feet, is located on a 20-acre plot at the corner of Normandie and Sepulveda boulevard.

Approximately 125 persons will be employed in the new plant, which manufactures copper and brass castings for irrigation and earth moving equipment and bushings for industrial machines, W. H. Brink, production manager for the firm said. Weekly payroll will amount to \$6000, he added.

When the building is completed in September, the company will move its operations from Los Angeles to the new plant, Brink stated.

Your Carrier Boy is in business for himself.
The 15c you pay each month for good delivery belongs entirely to him.

Torrance Opposes Move By Gardena

Torrance merchants this week reopened the battle to provide Torrance bus service to Harbor City and East Lomita, as a hearing before the Los Angeles Public Utilities Commission scheduled for Tuesday on the petition of Gardena Municipal Bus Lines for the right to serve that area was postponed for two weeks.

Over the protests of local business men and residents of both Torrance and the Harbor City-East Lomita area, the Harbor City bus service formerly provided by Torrance Municipal Bus Lines was cancelled more than a year ago.

Mrs. Frances Hencel, secretary of the Harbor City Chamber of Commerce, fought to keep the Torrance lines, and when she was told that her efforts would be useless, she sought other service for the people of that area. Among lines investigated were those of Wilmington and San Pedro.

Since the Greyhound bus strike which started about two months ago, Harbor City and East Lomita people have been "stranded."

Gardena municipal lines came up with a suggestion that they operate on both Western avenue and Normandie avenue southward to Pacific Coast highway.

Because the area from 182nd street to 235th street on Western avenue already is serviced by Torrance lines, Marshall Chamberlain, manager of Torrance Municipal Bus system was prepared to protest the Gardena petition.

However, it appears that Torrance merchants will renew their efforts to again provide the Torrance service to Harbor City and East Lomita. Growth of the area is said to be sufficient to warrant the extension of the present Western avenue and Kettler Knolls line to that district.

The hearing before the Los Angeles Public Utilities Commission was postponed until May 13. Both the Pacific Electric company and the Los Angeles Transit Lines protested the Gardena petition, but both also refused to provide transportation to the area.

Since Torrance Municipal Bus Lines can better prove that the Harbor City line would be for the "convenience" of the people of Torrance, it was believed that Torrance would be in the best position to establish the service to Harbor City.

WORKERS RAP CITY PENSIONS

Many employees of the City of Torrance are dissatisfied with the city employees retirement program being handled through the state, and want to take necessary steps to get coverage under the Federal social security system. It was revealed to the Torrance Press this week.

Councilman Nick Drale said that he had been approached by a group of employees inquiring into the possibility of coverage by the federal program.

"These city workers tell me that they have to pay too much into the program out of their checks, and that the state program is working a hardship on them," Drale said. "After retirement, pensions are too low, they claim, and they feel that they can get more out of the Social Security program of the federal government."

Councilman Drale said that he was asking Attorney General Brown for an opinion on the possibility of changing from the state to federal program.

Hungry Thieves Raid Ice Box

Robert K. Walsh returned to his home at 16412 Illinois Court last Friday and discovered that hungry burglars had entered the home and raided the ice box as well as a bank containing 12 silver dollars. Before making off with the dozen coins and 33 more dollars in bills and change, the thieves helped themselves to generous amounts of crackers, butter and luncheon meat.

The culprits, two juvenile boys, were later arrested by Gardena police and are now having their meals served to them in jail, Torrance police disclosed.

Ballot Battalion Outlines Program to Increase Vote

Tactical maneuvers of Torrance's newest army, the "Ballot Battalion," were outlined last night at the organizational meeting held at City Hall under the sponsorship of the Torrance Kiwanis Club. Speaking before an audience representing over fifty service, P-TA, women's, and fraternal clubs, Kiwanis President Paul Loranger urged the members to join the war against the "indifference and apathy of the voting public."

He outlined a three point program for a successful drive to increase voting.

The three major objectives, which will be continuous in their application, are: To conduct community-wide campaigns to register every eligible voter; to assist the general public in obtain-

(Continued on Page Two)



MARVIN MacARTHUR accepts the gavel of the office of governor of the Torrance Moose lodge from outgoing governor George Powell (center), at a ceremony held last Sunday at the lodge hall. James Stiles, (right) was installed as junior governor during the afternoon ceremony. Other members of the new cabinet include: Joseph Platt, prelate; A. E. Robinson, treasurer; Don Hutchinson, sergeant at arms; Gordon Jones and Ralph Fritz, trustees. Danny Desmond officiated during the installation ceremony. —Press photo