

# Polio Youth Crawls To Sister's Rescue

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READERS

VOLUME V

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1954 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

119

NUMBER 42

# MOTOR VEHICLE OFFICE TO OPEN HERE MONDAY

## FLAMES TURN GIRL INTO HUMAN TORCH

Aroused by screams for help, a 19-year-old Torrance polio cripple dragged himself frantically through four rooms on his hands and knees to save his 5-year-old sister who had been engulfed in flames when her nightgown caught fire while she stood near an electric floor heater.

## Harvey To Construct 2 More Plants

Two new plants, an extrusion plant and a forging plant, are about to be constructed by Harvey Machine company, it was indicated this week.

Bids for laying the foundation have been received and it is expected that contracts will be awarded within the next few days.

The buildings will probably be located south of the present plant.

There is no indication as yet in regard to the size of the buildings, the number of employees to be hired, or the time the construction will be completed. Leo Harvey, president, had no comment to make at this time in regard to the whole matter.

## DOAK STRIKE CONTINUES

While AFL International Association of Machinists are out on strike at Doak Aircraft company the company refuses to recognize the Union as the official bargaining unit until it receives the decision in the matter from the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C., it was announced this week.

Of the 180 employees, 27 have been on strike over a week, it was revealed.

Hero of the tragedy is Reginald Griffin, who has been paralyzed from the waist down since he was 18 months old. Griffin has been working for Northrup for the last four months.

Near death in Harbor General Hospital with third degree burns over 60 per cent of her body is his sister, Diana Griffin.

The tragedy took place at 6:45 a.m. in their home at 193rd st. and Western ave.

Flaming Torch  
Reginald crawled after his (continued on page 5)

## 3 PLANTS RUMORED TO LOCATE HERE

Land, zoned heavy manufacturing (M-2) and located at Madrona north of Torrance boulevard, is being graded and landscaped by Chanslor Canfield Midway Oil company, owners of the property, for the benefit of interested parties, it was revealed this week.

A representative from industry is said to have looked at the property already. The area involved, which covers about 70-80 acres, is located north of Maricopa as far as the city dump and the Dominguez reservoir and extending from Maple avenue to Madrona avenue. Grading cost is said to approximate \$70,000.

The area is just north of the proposed new civic center site. The area located across from the present area being graded was similarly landscaped some time ago but nothing further was done with it.



COMING FROM HIS SISTER'S ROOM is Reginald Griffin, 19, the polio-victim turned hero. Reginald crawled desperately through four rooms to get to his sister who turned into a human torch when a floor heater ignited her nightgown. Diana, 5, who underwent surgery

Tuesday, in Harbor General Hospital, is still in critical condition. Reginald, who beat out the flames, suffered first and second degree burns. He is being comforted by his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Griffin.

## Open House Planned By Night School

Open house to display work done by Torrance Evening School students will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, January 22, at Torrance High School.

The public is invited to attend this event. An interesting program has been arranged, including a fashion show to demonstrate the skills taught in the dressmaking, tailoring and knitting classes. This is scheduled (continued on page 5)

## CHAMBER DINNER Nomination Deadline Extended

Nomination for the Torrance Annual Citizen Award to be presented to a local citizen who has contributed most to the welfare and growth of Torrance in 1953 will be accepted by the Chamber of Commerce until midnight, Sunday, January 24. It was reported this week by Paul Loran, president-elect.

The William I. Laughon-Grover C. Whyte Memorial trophy will be presented at the annual Chamber of Commerce installation dinner scheduled for Thursday evening, January 28, at 7 p.m. in the Civic Auditorium.

Included in the program is a "Chuck Wagon" barbecue (Continued on Page 5)

## Mrs. Carter Comes Back For More . . .

"I didn't think it could be done," said Mrs. Julia Carter of 1927 253rd Place, "But the Torrance Press helped me sell some items which are extremely hard to sell. While I'm here at your office I'd like to place another ad with you on some other items."

The satisfied customer had run the following ad in the Torrance Press classified section.

FOR SALE—Brownie Movie Camera for sale. Carrying case, projector and screen. \$80. 1927 253rd Pl., Lomita

She was ready to keep all the articles if she could not sell them altogether, but Mrs. Carter found a buyer anxious to buy them all.

You, too, will be happy with Torrance Press classified results. Give it a try. Like Mrs. Carter, you'll be back for more.

## LIONS FETE L.A. DISTRICT ATTORNEY

District Attorney S. Ernest Roll will address the Torrance Lions Club Tuesday noon, January 26 at Richard Alan Hall, 1953 Carson. His topic will be



DISTRICT ATTORNEY: S. Ernest Roll . . . to speak before Lions Club.

"District Attorney, Friend or Foe," according to Al Isen, program chairman.

Ernie Roll, who was born in Long Beach, is a frequent luncheon and after-dinner speaker.

## Chace Office Opens Here

An office to serve the Torrance Area will be opened this Friday by County Supervisor Burton W. Chace in the Torrance City Hall, the supervisor announced today.

Chace said the office will be open each Friday morning from 9:30 to noon and will be staffed by Richard L. Newton, Field Deputy for the Supervisor.

## DEPARTMENT TO MAINTAIN 5-DAY WEEK

Torrance's Motor Vehicle Department, whose opening was delayed by three weeks, will definitely open Monday, January 25, at 1317 Cravens ave., it was disclosed this week.

The Motor Vehicle Department, which is located opposite the telephone company near Torrance blvd., will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. It will remain open Saturday, January 30, from 8 a.m. till noon for registration renewals, it was disclosed.

Approximately 80,000 people will be served by this Department, according to Lloyd Kemp, district supervisor.

The office will handle 1954 registrations as of the opening (continued on page 5)

## Car Rams Tree; Man Killed

Having apparently fallen asleep at the wheel, a Douglas worker was killed early Monday morning when his car crashed head-on into a tree at Hawthorne ave. and Del Amo blvd., according to Acting Police Chief Willard Haslam.

Pronounced dead on arrival at Harbor General Hospital was John Levern Brekke, 33, of 2610 Ralston Lane, Redondo Beach, husband of June J. Brekke of the same address.

The car in which he was driving was a total wreck with the front wheels pushed clear under the front door, it was stated.

According to Torrance Police Officer H. Ingram, who investigated the accident, Brekke's car (continued on page 5)

This Way . . .



SWINGIN' RIGHT ALONG . . . Mr. and Mrs. Nick Rallo, 3406 W. 174th st., are getting into shape for the first March of Dimes dance to be held Saturday, January 23 at 9 p.m. at Alan Richard Hall, 1953 W. Carson st. The dance is being sponsored by the Torrance Democratic club. All proceeds will go to the March of Dimes.

## 2 March Of Dimes Dances This Week

The first two of three March of Dimes dances will be held this week.

Torrance Democrats, Incorporated, are sponsoring the first of these dances which will be held Saturday, January 23, at 9 p.m. at the Alan Richard Hall, 1953 Carson street in Torrance.

Ken Perkins' orchestra is featured. Members of the dance committee are: Miss Rose Sarukian, chairman; Mrs. Irene Fraser, Robert Burke, Mrs. Ella Schwartz, and Louis Carreau.

Tickets may be secured by calling Miss Sarukian, ME 4-1934; Robert Burke, FA 8-4949; or Louis Carreau, FR 5-1276.

## Square Dance

The second dance will be a square dance to be held at the Civic Auditorium, Tuesday, January 26, from 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. The dance is sponsored by the Recreation Department's square dance class and the ladies of the adult recreation center who will serve refreshments. Contributions are entirely voluntary. Gerald Reeser, a noted square dance caller will be featured, together with other guest callers.

## Moose Dance

The third dance, sponsored by the Torrance lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose, has been scheduled for Saturday, January 30, at 8:30 p.m. at the lodge hall, 1744 Carson street according to Daniel Desmond, governor, and Charles Shiffer, dance chairman.

## NO STRIKE VOTE SET BY UNION

Rumors that Retail Clerks Local 905 would call a strike vote tonight over a wage-deadlock with the Harbor Area Employers' Council were dispelled this week when Elia Mossesso, International officer and advisor to Ben Scott, secretary-treasurer, declared that no strike vote has been considered as yet.

Raise Asked  
"Everything hinges upon the 12½ cents an hour increase asked by the Union," Mossesso stated. "So far the employers (Continued on Page 5)

## Cop's Blow Hits Officer By Mistake

Officer Francis R. Cooper could testify this week that the arm of the law is strong . . . mighty strong!

When James D. Wardell, 32, of Hermosa Beach forcefully resisted arrest in a Gardena cafe, three Torrance police officers quickly came to the assistance of Officer Cooper who was making the arrest. By accident, a billy club intended for Wardell connected with Officer Cooper's head. Cooper bravely continued with his work until (continued on page 5)

...Or That Way



ANOTHER TYPE OF SWINGIN' . . . Square dancers will be in their glory Tuesday night, January 26, at the Torrance Civic Auditorium when Gerald Reeser, noted caller, will call the dances. Voluntary contributions will be turned

over to the March of Dimes. The dance is being sponsored by the Torrance Adult Club which is an activity of the Recreation Department.



THEY'RE NEVER TOO YOUNG OR TOO OLD . . . to learn. Tom Brayl, machine shop instructor at the Torrance Adult Evening School, gives a few pointers to Bill "Dad" Steddig, 66, of 1812 Andro, Torrance, and Doug-

las Foulger, 20, of 20606 Oak ave., Keystone. The two men are typical of the adults attending night school. There is no age limit and the only requirement is the desire to learn.

# BEST CITIZEN AWARD ENTRIES DUE JANUARY 24th.