

'HE'S A BIGAMIST!' CHARGES NORTH TORRANCE WIFE NO. 1

A bigamy complaint was filed this week by a young Torrance woman who found her husband remarried after she returned from a three-week trip to Dayton, Ohio, to see her parents.

When Mrs. Cornelia Groh, 30, came back from her trip East, she discovered that her husband, C. Gerald Groh, 30, of 16732 Crenshaw blvd., had married a Hawaiian girl, Alberta Veronica Sallee, about 25 years old.

Files Complaint

Wife No. 1 sought out Det. Sgt. Percy Bennett of the Torrance Police Department, filing a bigamy complaint against her husband yesterday. Court learning of the matter has been set for next week.

While Mrs. Cornelia Groh maintained she went back East simply for a visit, hubby claims that his wife left on her own ac-

cord and that she wanted a divorce.

Thinking that she had probably obtained a divorce, Groh told Sgt. Bennett, he up and remarried, only to be faced with a rather embarrassing situation as wife No. 1 dropped in on him eight days after he said, "I Do's" with Miss Sallee.

Married 4 Years

Groh and his first wife have been married four years. They came to Torrance in January of this year.

Groh, a machinist at Torrance Douglas aircraft plant, met his second wife at the firm where they are both employed.

Mrs. Groh No. 2 is anxious to keep her troubled hubby and hopes that the matter can be straightened out. But Mrs. Groh No. 1 thinks she has some prior claims.

The matter is now up to the judge.

YOUNG MOTHER OF 4 SHOT THROUGH HEAD BY CRAZED HUSBAND

Terror stalked a Torrance home Monday morning when a father of four shot his wife through the head with a .22 rifle and then fought it out with sheriff's deputies after first shooting and stabbing himself.

In serious condition but holding his own at the Los Angeles County Hospital jail ward is Fermin B. Pagaling, 48, of 451 1/2 East 213th street, according to the attending physician.

"Fantastic"

Despite the fact that Pagaling allowed his wife, Frances, 22, to lie wounded for three hours before help was summoned, she was in "excellent" condition at Harbor General hospital Tuesday. "There are no abnormal findings... just two little holes where the bullet passed. It's fantastic!" the attending physician stated.

Pagaling, who returned from

San Diego around 5 a.m. Monday, apparently shot his wife while she and the children were still asleep.

He then sat and waited for her to die, deputies said.

"Mama Wants To Sleep"

At around 8 in the morning he took the children outside telling them, "Come on, kids, Mama wants to sleep." The children are Bobby, 4 months, Ginger, 1, Marcelina, 3, and Fermin 4.

While the berserk man took the children to the home of a relative a block away, Mrs. Pagaling stumbled next door, telling Mrs. Anna Bertschinger, "Call the officers. He shot me."

As Deputy H. E. Springett arrived, he saw Pagaling getting into his car. Pagaling fired a series of bullets which struck the Bertschinger home. Springer fired back, driving

(Continued on Page 2)



FERMIN PAGALING ... goes berserk

TORRANCE PRESS

Conveniently Located at 1406 Cravens Avenue — Phone FAirfax 8-2345

VOLUME VI THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1954 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA NUMBER 30



10¢

Member of the Controlled Circulation Newspapers of America

100,000 READERS

Good-Bye L.A.! Smog-Stricken Family Moves To Torrance

Can't Stand It Any Longer In L.A.

"This is it! We've had it!" Fran and Roger Cade of Los Angeles exclaimed this week as they made plans to move to Torrance to escape the smog which they claim has become unbearable.

"Our kids are going around all day rubbing their eyes and my wife has been suffering terribly from the smog," Cade said.

The Cades have already bought a home at 3315 W. 180th st. and will move in the first week in November after having lived in Los Angeles five years.

The smog, however, was never as bad as it was in recent weeks, Cade said.

The Cades, who live at 185 S. Oxford, have two children, Johnnie, 4, and "P.J.," 2.

Cade, an insurance salesman, had some ideas in regard to present attempts to cope with the smog menace.

"Some Solution"

"I'm not a smog expert," he said, "but I think it would help if the city were to crack down on cars—the real 'smokers' that is. Getting rid of incinerators would also be better all around. It would be a step in the direction of Progress. As far as Knight's request was concerned to shut down the refineries, that, I think, was politically motivated in part. But every angle should be explored. It will take time, but I'm sure we can arrive at some solution."

The whole family feels quite happy about moving to Torrance. Recent studies showed that of all areas in the vicinity

(Continued on Page 4)



SOME DEFINITE IDEAS ABOUT SMOG ... Not able to stand the unbearable smog conditions in Los Angeles any longer, Mr. and Mrs.

Roger Cade and their two sons, "P.J.," 2, and Johnnie 4, are packing their bags and moving to Torrance the first week in November.

Green Wins Good Neighbor Award Helping Alcoholics

Harry T. Green of 1314 Beech ave., who fought a battle with alcohol and won and who has dedicated himself to rehabilitating alcoholics, was chosen for the annual YMCA Good Neighbor award Saturday.

"Knowing from personal experience the sorrow, degradation and hardships that come to those so addicted," the nominating letter read, Green now

devotes his time "toward the assistance of those who his fellows who are also addicted."

Green was recommended for the award by Sgt. Bill Evans of the Torrance Police Department.

Also mentioned in the letter and receiving honorary mention for her unselfish assistance was Mrs. Green.

The trophy was presented by Sam Levy, chairman of the Good Neighbor awards committee.

More than 600 people attended Saturday's fund-raising breakfast, according to Eddie

(Continued on Page 2)

New Winners In Oscar Maples' Grid Contest

Here they are again—some more winners in the Oscar Maples football contest sponsored by the local Ford dealer. Contest rules may be found on page 26.

First, second, and third place winners receiving \$20, \$10, and \$5 in merchandise prizes last week were: Averil Mahoney, 5604 Sunnyview; O. H. Newbert, 1062 Greenhedge St.; Sam A. Martin, 1827 Gramercy.

Winning free lube jobs were: J. C. Barry, Warner Spurrier, C. E. James.

City Council Awards Parking Meter Bids

Parking meters for downtown Torrance are only 45 days away at the most as a result of action taken by the City Council Tuesday night. Bids for about 400 parking meters were awarded to the Duncan Parking Meter Corporation for their single headed automatic meters.

LATE NEWS

BUM CHECKS: A bum check amounting to \$30.73 drawn on the Security First National Bank, Huntington Park branch, was recently cashed at John's Paint Store. Merchants are warned against accepting similar checks signed by M. J. Olson. Olson is described as 53 years old, 5 ft. 9 inches, 190 pounds, balding brown hair. Det. Sgt. Percy Bennett of the

(Continued on Page 4)

Mother Saves Polio Victim From Fire

A 10-year-old polio victim was saved this week by her mother when their home caught on fire as a result of a little boy playing with matches.

Mrs. D. R. Sturgess of 3207 W. 227th st. told investigators Friday that she was watering the lawn when she suddenly smelled smoke.

Though the children were supposed to be taking a nap, Mrs. Sturgess suspected trouble and raced into the house.

Four-year-old Butch came running out of the bedroom where flames were eating away at the bedding.

Mrs. Sturgess yelled for Butch and Danette, his sister, to go outside.

Then the mother ran into Jo

(Continued on Page 2)

IT'S AS SIMPLE AS AN AD

You don't have to use baby talk when you want to sell a baby bathinette or anything else, for that matter.

All you've got to do is tell 'em the facts... clearly, simply. That's what Mrs. D. Augler of 1751 West 242nd place Lomita did when she placed the following ad in the Torrance Press classified section:

BATHINETTE, pad & liner. Very clean. \$7. 24215 Eshleman Ave., Lomita DA. 6-3262

She sold her bathinette instantly.

Torrance Press classified results come as easily as a baby's smile... try it, and see. Call FA. 8-2345.

Mortuary -- Here We Go Again!

Never-say-die foes of the proposed Halverson mortuary in Torrance reopened the whole issue once more despite the fact that it was seemingly settled by nothing less than a Superior Court ruling recently.

Not satisfied with Judge Arnold Praeger's decision favoring a variance granted by the City Council, Earl P. Miller, through his attorney Jack Stearns, announced this week that he will appeal the judge's decision within 30 days "on the basis that he (Praeger) made errors in law in rendering his opinion."

Kicked Around

Foes of the mortuary to be located opposite Torrance's only other mortuary at the corner of Cravens and Engracia had been instrumental in having the mortuary matter held up for months through all sorts of legal kinks before the City Council finally approved the variance 4 to 1.

Councilman Albert Isen voted against the mortuary.

After the matter is appealed now it will be a matter of about

(Continued on Page 2)

COUNCIL BRIEFS

CRENSHAW BLVD. REZONING: Considering the rezoning of Crenshaw boulevard commercially from Dominguez to Carson is to receive priority on the Planning Commission agenda, according to action taken by the City Council Tuesday.

DIAGONAL PARKING: John M. Wren protested diagonal parking on Crenshaw boulevard between 172nd and 174th streets. His request for parallel parking was referred to the Traffic Commission for study.

SMOG AND INCINERATORS: Torrance is not affected by the proposed incinerator ban, Councilman Isen stated, since the city already provides for free rubbish collection service. It's there for residents to use.

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS: Crossing guards were given a raise from \$1.20 to \$1.50 an hour. Upon recom-

(Continued on Page 2)

Boy, 3, Dies, 15 Hurt In Week-End Traffic Accidents

Numerous traffic accidents resulting in one death and at least fifteen injuries made this last week end one of the worst and grimmest that Torrance has had for some time, according to Chief Willard Haslam.

A three-year-old boy, Vernon Ray Johnson of Los Angeles, was killed early Sunday morning when he was flung from a car driven by his father, Edmund Johnson, 24. Johnson was not familiar with Hawthorne avenue near 190th street, according to police, and failed to negotiate the curve in the road. Johnson told police that the car continued over the dirt road and out into the field where it roared over a dirt embankment and overturned.

Others Hurt

Three other passengers suffered major injuries including Johnson, Miss Peggy Engle, 18, Los Angeles, and James Horse, Jr., a marine stationed at Camp Pendleton. Miss Theodora Harakuku of Los Angeles and Mrs. Johnson were cut and bruised.

The car was a total loss. Cabrillo and Sepulveda became the scene Sunday of a collision and numerous injuries when one car rammed into the rear of another car which had come to a halt at a boulevard stop.

A car carrying Mr. and Mrs. Loren Hunt and their three children, all of Mira Loma, rammed into a car driven by Kenneth Schmitter, 24, of 5604 Sunnyside drive, according to police reports.

The Hunts all suffered severe lacerations and contusions. Schmitter, as well as his passenger, Miss Diane Anderson, 20, of 2118 Cabrillo avenue, also suffered injuries.

All were taken to Harbor General Hospital.

More week end injuries were chalked up Sunday afternoon in an accident at 174th street and Gramercy place involving Charles Jaten, 75, and Mrs. (Emilie) Jaten, 76, of Long Beach, in one car. Diane Raymond, 19, of Westwood, was a passenger in a car driven by Edward Murdock, 21, of Venice.

All were taken to Park Emergency Hospital, according to Highway Patrol.

Boy, 6, Hurt
Suffering head injuries in a

(Continued on Page 4)

Big Shopping Center To Be Built Here

Construction of the multi-million dollar shopping center proposed on a site near the intersection of Hawthorne and Redondo Beach boulevards is to start around January 1, according to company representatives.

This information was revealed to the Redondo Beach City Council by City Manager Francis Hopkins who conferred with representatives of the project.

Hopkins told councilmen that the plan drawn up by Quincy Jones-Frederick Emmons-Victor

(Continued on Page 2)

Two Local Battles To Be Decided At Polls Tuesday

A total of 19,222 Torrance residents are registered to vote this coming Tuesday, November 2, with two local political battles taking the limelight.

One Congressional seat is at stake, with Congressman Cecil R. King (D) of the Seventeenth Congressional District seeking reelection to the office which he has held since 1942.

Challenging King is Robert Finch (R) an Inglewood attorney who has been active in Republican ranks for some time. He was formerly executive secretary to Mayor Norris Poulson of Los Angeles when the latter served in Congress.

Also seeking reelection is Vincent Thomas (D) who holds a seat in the California Assembly. Thomas, of the Sixty-eighth District which includes Torrance, is opposed by Republican John Willd.

Assemblyman Thomas is the

minority floor leader of the State Legislature. Willd is a practicing attorney in Torrance, associated with the firm of Willd and Woolley.

Running unopposed in this election for the post of Los Angeles County Supervisor is Burton W. Chace. Chace represents the fourth district, which includes Torrance.

Other Offices at Stake

Other offices and issues at stake include those of governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, controller, attorney general, board of equalization, United States Senate, and sev-

eral propositions. Of the 19,222 registered voters in Torrance, 11,470 are registered Democrats; 6,956 Republicans; 686 non-partisans; 13 Independents; 14 Prohibitionists; and 83 miscellaneous, according to A. H. Bartlett, city clerk.

At the time of the primary election, the registration stood at 17,072.

There will be Sixty-eight precincts in which to vote. Three are split precincts bringing the total to 71. Anyone in doubt about which poll to go to may call the City Hall for information (FA. 8-5310).



GOOD NEIGHBOR TROPHY... Harry Green (left) was given the Good Neighbor award for this year at the annual YMCA Good Neighbor breakfast held Saturday. Making the award is Sam Levy.

SEE YOU AT THE POLLS, TUESDAY, NOV. 2

MONMOUTH, ILLINOIS
P.O. DRAWER 127
O.J. FOREMAN