GOUNGIL TO INVESTIGATE STORM JRAIN SYSTEM FOR TORRANCE



\$1000 DOUGLAS CHECK for the 1956 Torrance YMCA Fund is presented to C. C. Morgan, left, industrial chairman of the fund, by J. D. Thomas, factory superintendent of the Torrance facility, El Segundo division, Douglas Aircraft.

Pouglas Contributes \$1000 to 'Y' Campaign

\$1000 for the Torrance YMCA, Industrial Chairman C. C.

Morgan, general superintendent of the Columbia-Geneva

TORRANCE PRESS

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

Vol. VII I N 2 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1956 - TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

City Gets Court Just In Time ...

Torrance got a municipal court by the skin of its teeth this week because from now on such requests must first be submitted to the Judicial Council before the County Board of Supervisors will act on it.

The supervisors voted in favor of an ordinance which will go into effect in 30 days, establishing such a court. The vote was 3.1 with Supervisors Chase, Hahn, and Jessup in favor, and Supervisor John Anson Ford opposed. Board Chairman Herbert C. Legg was absent.

Ford agreed with members of the Property Owner's association of California who opposed granting of the court' on the grounds that the matter should be submitted to the State and In accepting a Douglas Aircraft company check for Judicial Council for study and

recommendation. After the board granted the Steel Division of United States Steel corporation, today Torrance request, they went on

record as favoring this prothe contribution and for the air of \$19,000 will provide operaposed policy from now on. The ordinance was adopted on

craft company's participation in ting costs for a trained full strongly supported by Hahn, both of whom have actively endorsed such a move.

tive community support which the issue received.

DISASTER CENTER . . . Members of the American Legion made their hall available to shelter flood victims during last week's storm. Among those brought to the center were (I-r) Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Martucci, 16717 Elgar, Mrs. Marvin motion of Supervisor Chace and Chalek, 16713 Elgar, her husband, (not shown),

months (in crib). Seated with the group is select any man among the top Allied Gardens tract. These two Taylor Vondrak, 4, of 16703 Elgar (1). Mrs. three on the eligibility list for are city sumps. Virginia Stoddard of the Red Cross checks promotion. after their needs .- Press Photo.

Volunteers Spring Into Action As Flood Strikes

Flood waters ran rampant in sections of Torrance last ceived satisfactory grades on Thursday, necessitating the evacuation of 140 persons (about 50 families). They had all returned home or to Councilman Victor Be All California motorists were friends and relatives by Saturday. alerted today to avoid penalties An emergency disaster center

alerted today to avoid penalties on their 1956 license plates by securing their registration re-newals before midnight, Satur-day, February 4. To give late applicants an gion to the disaster crews. An emergency disaster center uses to formance as far as gion to the disaster crews. An emergency disaster center the American An emergency disaster center the American All the facilities of the hall were made available by the Le-Dominguez. Disaster Area

extra margin of time, the de- Areas which were hardest Disaster Area

It's Spelled: partment announces it will keep hit and had to be evacuated Torrance was declared a dis-

Bond Issue to be **Approved by Voters**

In an effort to remedy the serious drainage problems in Torrance every time there is a heavy rain, the council agreed unanimously to investigate the possibility of an adequate storm drain system for the city. City engineers have been au-

thorized to make a survey with

the idea in mind that the plan

would be submitted as a bond

issue to be approved by the

The proposal was made by

City Engineer Ronald Bishop and Assistant Engineer John

gating the possibilities of such

a system following last week's

Cost

system has been tentatively es-

timated as between \$5-\$10 mil-

Cost of such a storm drain

"Such a system would take

Once the bonds are voted it

would be a matter of "several"

years until the system would be

The council should receive a

report on the matter in about

Sumps

Councilman Willys Blount al-

Blount also termed as "gross-

(Turn to Page 5).

voters of Torrance.

lion, Bishop said.

rick explained.

Councilman Nick Drale.

Fire Dep't Promotions **Under Fire**

NO. 42

Following a report suggesting Patrick said they began investiunfair promotional practices in the Torrance Fire department, the City Council voted unani- flood. mously to get an explanation in writing from Chief J. J. Benner explaining why two men at the top of the eligibility list have

been consistently by-passed. The council also set aside the action of last week approving care of 99% of our rains," Pat-

other promotions until a full report has been submitted to the council. These actions were taken fol-

lowing a report by Tullio J. completely installed, Bishop Rizzo, vice-president, southern said. district, of the Federated Fire Fighters of California.

Rizzo informed the council three to four weeks. that Engineer B. C. Slonecker has been by-passed on five separate occasions, although he so asked that the city take care stands in the number one place of some immediate problems inon the eligibility list.

volving dangerous' sumps. Engineer M. T. Langum, who He asked that the wooden stands in third place, has been fences around three sumps be by-passed five times, Rizzo said. replaced with chain-link fences. and their children, Cheri, 2, and Jody, 5 because department heads may na sump and two sumps in the

In these instances it actually ly negligent" the existence of

happened that those standing below these men on the eligibility list eventually moved into Slain Man's two of the top three positions on the list, thus making them Rizzo indicated that Sloneck-er and Langum have always re-ceived satisfactory

On Cliff Councilman Victor Benstead initiated action that the coun-

(Turn to Page 5)

A wealthy motel owner, reported missing last week, was found half-way down a 150-foot cliff near Point Fermin, apparently the victim of a robbery and murder.

The bullet-riddled body of Matt Manestar, 56, who disappeared from his motel office at 1345 W. Pacific Coast highway a week ago Monday, was discov-

time executive secretary, a part J. D. Thomas, factory super- time program assistant, and a intendent of the El Segundo full time stenographer in the

Morgan said such generous contributions would permit the YMCA to help young people Merchants spiritual fitness and develop

American citizenship. He said the Torrance "Y" would help



orsed such a move. Observers have claimed that a major reason why Torrance did obtain this branch munici-pal court is because of the ac-SATURDAY

Glenburn Residents

Up In Arms

ship The Torrance YMCA budget

provide industry with youth

with character fitted for modern

industrial society and citizen-

expressed his appreciation for @

division's Torrance facility, office.

1956 fund drive.

Attendants Intercept B'rer Stork

It was a race to beat the stork last Saturday morning when two of Wright's ambulance atendants sped to 174th st. and enshaw to help deliver a baby who wouldn't wait.

Charles A. Gotts, owner of Charley . Dusart and Larry Colley responded to a call from Daniel's Restaurant and promipolice that Mrs. Frank J. John- nent in civic affairs in Torrance, son, of 18720 Fonthill, was giv- was unanimously elected presiing birth to a baby in a car be- dent of the Retail Merchants Dihind the North Torrance post- vision of the Chamber of Comoffice. Johnson called police merce at the recent meeting, in shortly after midnight to re- the Chamber offices. Twenty-four persons, the quest help . . . and fast.

Dusart and Colley helped de. largest attendance at any recent mery and rushed the baby, a Merchants' meeting, also named girl, and its mother to Harbor the following as officers: O. R. General hospital where both are Trueblood (McMahan's Furni doing well. Though this was ture) first vice-president, J. H. the first time the two attend. Paget (McCown drugs) second ants had assisted in delivery of vice-president. Frances Lee baby while working for (Bernard's Bootery) secretary. Wright's, both have been called treasurer.

Residents complaining of from the installation of a storm rary offices open on Saturday Elgar, where the Dominguez win Knight who ordered out RESULTS! drain along Glenburn ave, were to 5 p.m. They were originally channel proved inadequate in the National Guard and Red assured of the City Council's scheduled to close Saturday carrying off the flood waters. Cross. backing in demanding correc- noon.

The local office is located on tion of the situation from the Board of Supervisors. Cravens avenue at the corner Referring to the work being of Engracia (next to the tele-

done between 166th st. and phone company). 175th st., Councilman Nick Applications mailed Saturday Drale claimed that "it was the evening with a post mark earsloppiest job" he had ever seen lier than midnight will be ac in his life. cepted as penalty-free.

John J. Wolfe, one of the Penalties set up in State laws pokesmen for the residents, double the flat \$8 annual regissaid that sewers have been tration fee imposed on all vestanding open for 90 days and hicles, thus increasing this por-

the storm drain job, has made deadline. Fee statements issued promises but not done anything by the department show the the present location. combined amounts as a single to correct the situation. Wolfe said that trees were total.

ruined and driveways cracked. The 100 banks that have ofand that numerous hazards ex- fered limited service in metro-(Turn to Page 6) isted in the streets.

General Petroleum Plans \$71 Million Cracking Unit

Spearheading the extensive plans for expansion of the Torrance area." Otsea said. the General Petroleum refinery in Torrance will be the "Since the merger of Torrance addition of a new \$7,500,000 gasoline cracking unit, it was National bank into California announced by R. L. Minckler, president of General bank in May, 1954, business of

*Petroleum.

higher octane gasolines.

Production at the refinery now runs approximately 90,000 plete banking services will be barrels a day, and the rate will available in the new location insoon approach 100,000 barrels a cluding safe deposit, escrow, day, due to increased production night depository, and commerplans, A. E. Thompson refinery cial, real estate, and installment manager said. loan departments. The fixture

President Minckler announced installation is of oak and inthat along with the vast produc. cludes 19 teller windows and tion rate, a record of 250,000,000 private booths for escrow and man-hours without time lost due safe deposit department custo accident in the plant has tomers. been set.

Interior of the bank will be fluorescent lighted and has such A. L. Nickerson, president of Socony Mobil Oil co. visited the features as a sound absorbing ceiling, terrazo flooring, and a

pressed his amazement on re-visiting it at the astonishing growth in the area. He reported that Mobilgas and Mobil prod-ucts are racking up splor in the that Mobilgas and Mobil prod-ucts are racking up sales in the West and he said that the or ganization's record "was grow ganization's record "was grow-ing right along with California." George W. Post, a solution as cashier; Robert G. Leech, as-sistant manager of the office in sistant manager of the office in Others touring the refinery charge of the installment loan

with Nickerson and Minckler department; Milton A. Pagel, R. L. Minckler, president of General Petroleum, were: T. P. Simpson, vice-presi- operations officer; William M. the plant's Ozalid machine, a dry - process dent and director of manufac- Reuss Jr., manager of the real photostating machine. Operating it is Otto turing for General Petroleum; estate loan department; and W. (Turn to Page 6)

flooded areas helping to evacu-

sive.

CALIFORNIA BA

The Torrance office of Call- Participating were members of fornia bank opens for business the National Guard, city police

that the Pacific Allied con- tion of the total by 50 per cent ary 6, in its modern new build- members of the Torrance Swenson exclaimed. "I only ing at 1403 Sartori avenue, mounted police, and members needed to run the ad once. I sold across Marcelina avenue from of the Torrance fire depart the buggy early Thursday now on, according to action The new bank is several times

Dive Into Channel larger than the old guarters

and is of brick and stucco con- to relieve the blocked Domin- rent, trade, or hire your best Mayor Albert Isen and Councilstruction. An architectural fea- quez channel east of Crenshaw and fastest bet is the Torrance men. Victor Benstead and Merture of the building is its all- near 166th St. Divers plunged Press classified section. Call vin Schwab favored the change. metal and enframed with im-(Turn to Page 6)

perial red granite.

"The completion of our new Torrance office marks a milestone in the growth of California bank as well as that of

Once is enough

S. Grand ave., San Pedro. Minks found the body as he was walking along the beach Usually when people say that,

shortly before dark, according to San Pedro police. Police said Manestar had \$1.06

ered by Lee Minks, 40, of 1239

But not so Mrs. A. H. Swen in his pockets. He was last son of 1655 W. 215th st. She seen by his two sons, Emil, 27, Local merchants also followed only had to run her ad once in and Milton, 25, commercial fish-

Meeting Time

Council meetings will be held morning, right after the paper taken by the City Council.

came out. I'm very pleased." Some of the meetings have Guardsmen also made efforts Whether you wish to sell, buy, been held at 8 p.m. until now. glass main entrance set in white into the swirling water, hooking FA 8-2345. And it's so inexpen- Councilmen Nick Drale and Willys Blount voted against it.

> MODERNIZING AND ENLARGING ... California bank will be open for business at its new location, 1403 Sartori ave., Monday morning. February 6. The new building is across the street from the present bank building .- Seeman Photo.

the Torrance Press classified ermen, shortly after midnight section to get terrific results. Monday. WELSH boodle buggy, like new. \$14. 1655 W. 215th St. Council Changes





REPRODUCING MACHINE . . . A. E. Thompson, (I), refinery manager at the Torrance plant of General Petroleum, shows A. L. Nickerson, (c), president of Socony Mobil Oil Co., and

Helms .- Press Photo.

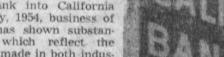
B. Hickcox, escrow officer.

the office has shown substan-

Another of the expansion tial gains which reflect the projects will be the erection of try and population in the area.

a new Sovaformer, he said. This It is gratifying to express at new catalytic reformer will this time our appreciation to patronage and support."

make possible the production of the people of Torrance for their Otsea pointed out that com-



Other areas included the resi-Local Red Cross volunteers virtually took complete charge they're pretty fed up about of caring for the evacuated something. Calif. Bank families at the Legion hall, providing for the basic necessities. To Open needed goods. Rescue units moved into the This is the way her ad read: New Location ate residents by boat and truck.