

'Kidnaped' Boys Just Runaways

Two 12-year-old runaways gave their parents and police some anxious hours early yesterday morning after they told a weird story of being kidmaped.

The boys, an uncle and a nephew, were found hobbling around, bound and gagged at Hawthorne blvd. and 182nd st. shortly after 5 a.m.

They said that a man abducted them, tied them up and finally released them near the South Bay Shopping Center.

Despite their imaginative account of the kidnaping, Torrance police soon got the true story from them.

It seems that the boys, decided Tuesday to walk up to Slip Rock, a camping area near Bakersfield. To prepare themselves for the necessary expenses, they cracked a piggy bank and took out 13 cents in traveling funds.

Starting from their South Torrance home, they managed to get as far as the South Bay Shopping Center.

The walk took a long time, and since it was getting dark, and parental discipline loomed at home, they decided they better stay out all night.

To cover up for their absence, they took a leaf from television Westerns, and decided they would tie themselves up and claim they were kidnaped.

They found some string and webbing material in the trash cans and one of them gagged the other with a handkerchief and tied his arms and legs securely.

Then the other tied the twine around his own legs and arms.

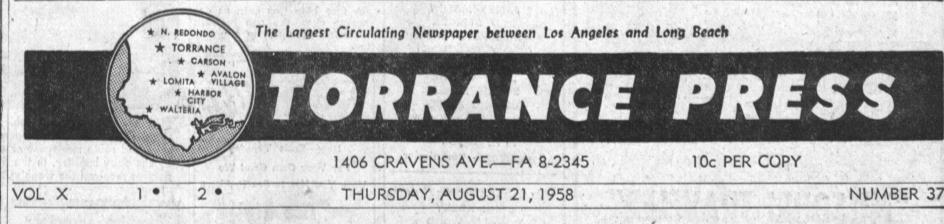
They hobbled over to 182nd st., where they sat down by a telephone pole. Shortly afterward, they were discovered by a newsboy who flagged Torrance Officers Charley Oates and Joseph Capriotti.

They told the policemen that a man in a black and white car had kidnaped them and tied them up, but that they finally managed to jump out of the vehicle.

Some more expert questioning by Sgts. Gus Rethwisch and Mickey Fischer, disclosed the truth.

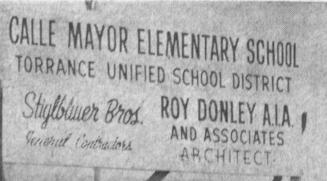
The boys were last seen leaving the police station with the father of one of them.

Dad had a rather grim expression on his face.



Jealous Boy Friend

CONCERT REHEARSAL-Bill Krimmel of Lomita, celloist with the Torrance-South Bay SymSunday at 3 p.m. in Torrance Park. The or-chestra will present the free concert under the baton of Elyse Aehle. Press Photo



Infant **Dies in Bathtub**

> A 17-months-old baby was scalded to death in a bathtub accident Sunday night.

The infant, Larry Wayne Merrick ,died in Children's Hospital a few hours after it received third degree burns on its lower body, deputy sheriffs reported. Howard Allen Merrick, 23, of 4551 W. 170th st., told deputies that when his family returned from the beach, his wife, Margaret Agnes, 21, ran some water into the bathtub and put Larry, and his two-year-old brother in it to wash off the sand.

Mrs. Merrick said that she only filled the tub approximately two inches high and left the tots. in it while she went next door to a neighbor's home to make a telephone call.

In the meantime, her husband left the house to take some friends with whom the Merricks had spent the day, home.

When Mrs. Merrick returned ients later, she found the older boy at the door, complaining that the water was too hot. When she rushed into the bathroom, Mrs. Merrick dis-covered that the faucets which she had turned off securely, on, and the tub filled about eight inches high with hot water. The scalded youngster was rushed to South Bay Emergency hospital and later transferred to Children's Hospital, Los Angeles where he died a few hours later.

Parking

Loss Seen

Councilman Robert Jahn,

chairman of the commission

said that angle parking will have

to be eliminated if the one-way

Pistol-whips Woman General Phone Co. Gets Rate Increase

Torrance subscribers to the General Telephone Co., will be in for a rate increase Aug. 30, when a Public Utilities Commission order becomes effective.

The PUC granted the phone company, which serves the western and southern parts of Torrance a rate hike on Aug. 5.

The new schedule hits heaviest at business services whose rate for single and two-party service will be hiked by \$1.90 per month. Present rates for business phones are \$10.50 a month for single service and \$8.25 for two-party lines.

Residential single party service will increase from \$5 to \$5.35; two party service from \$4.10 to \$4.20, and four-party service from \$3.50 to \$3.55, PUC officials said.

The rate hikes were opposed by the city. A PUC spokesman said that the board had cut the original requests by the company substantially.

The phone company had asked rates of \$6 for single party residential phones, \$4.85 for two-party service and \$3.80 for four-party service. Single business phone request was for \$13, and two-party business for \$10,70.

Crashes House **Of Victim**

A Lomita woman was severely pistol-whipped by a jealous boy friend who broke into her home early yesterday morning.

Lois W. Frye, 32, of 507 Harbor Hills ave., was taken to Hill-side Memorial Hospital for emergency treatment of numerous cuts and bruises on her face, head and neck.

Booked on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon and burglary was Robert Alvin Mehl, 42, of 26410 Ozone ave., Harbor City, a machinist.

Mrs. Frye told deputy sheriffs that Mehl demanded she admit him to her home, and when she

refused to let him in, he smashed

accused her of going out with

another man, and when she told him it was none of his business,

he beat her with a pellet pistol.

tim, the suspect then dragged

her out of the house, beating her

Deputies said that Mrs. Frve

appeared dazed and had a black

eye when they arrived at the

house after being summoned by

Deputy sheriffs were hunting

two men who stopped a car in

Lomita by impersonating police-

The pair ordered a vehicle

Phony Policemen

Stop Auto on

Lomita Street

Lennox Sheriff's Station.

According to the alleged vic-

The woman said that Mehl

a window.

continuously

a neighbor.



phony Orchestra, rehearses for pop concert

READY FOR OPENING-Newly appointed principal Myrl C. Rupel inspects sign at Calle Mayor Elementary School which will open for the new semester. Rupel, a flying enthusiast, commuted by air between his former post at Yucca Valley and SC where he was studying. (Press Photo) (Press Photo)

Flying Principal Assigned to School

Torrance's newest elementary school, Calle Mayor, will open its doors to more than 400 students, this fall, relieving double Workmen now are putting®

Council

Orders

Tax Cut

Over the opposition of two

members, the City Council Tues-

day instructed City Manager

provide for city employees

preparing the final budget.

Councilmen Willys Blount and

The latter said he wanted the

tax rate to remain at the present

\$1.224, citing that while the city

could well use the additional

revenue, the savings to taxpay-

ers would be very slight.

program as of next Jan. 1.

salary hikes.

George Bradford.

rate by one cent, and also to vised, Jahn said.

finishing touches on the school, Rupel and his group to leave. located at 4800 Calle Mayor, with He graduated from Laverne classes to begin on Sept. 11. De- College, lettering in football and signed by Architect Roy Donley, the school contains 13 class trick and serving as student body president. He holds a mas-ter's degree and now is working rooms, two kindergarten rooms, on his doctorate. homemaking and shop units, and

an administration building. Principal at the school will be cipal at Yucca Valley for the tended. The opening of Calle are instituted in the downtown past two years.

Mayor School will eliminate all area. Rupel's hobby is flying and but three classes of double seshe flew his own plane back and sions at Seaside. A number of forth from Yucca Valley to Los students will attend Seaside un-Angeles while getting his mastil Anza and Calle Mayor streets ter's degree at S.C. He holds a are extended later this year. commercial pilot's license. As a

boy, he used to save the money he made from his paper route to buy rides in planes.

He spent nine months in China 1947 with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, teaching farmers the use of tractors and other agricultural machinery. The advance of the Chinese Reds prior to taking over the country forced

Picture Preview, Another First, in **Today's Press**

With summer vacation nearing its end, this is the time when families who want to move, take the big step in order to avoid the confusion of making a later move when school has started.

In order to help these famin finding a new home, Torrance Press this week starts another first.

This consists of picture previews of homes for sale in this area. Readers will be able to see photos of the actual listings, and get an idea of what the house actually looks like. This picture feature will be found in today's classified real estate section.

ARRIVAL TOAST-Fred Classen, left, a German youth, and Tom Quaggin of Torrance, toast each other as they returned here last week. Quaggin had stayed at Classen's home in Germany, and now Quaggin is returning the hospitality. Beer steins are more 50 years old. (Press Photo) (Press Photo)

Torrance Youth Hosts Son of Exchange Student Days Family

Tom Quaggin, 19, is now re-, Germany this summer from Canturning the hospitality to a guest ada where he had been working through her parents, that she whose family hosted him while on ranches. Both youths came vas injured in an auto accident.

Members of the Traffic Com-Many of the staff at the new mission have asked for a report he was an exchange student in school will be former teachers on how many parking spaces Germany two years ago.

he had stayed while the Tor- State College. Germany in 1956.

pre ram is to be effective. has been in Germany twice. He asked City Engineer Ronald W. Bishop to make a survey on how many stalls will be lost again this year to study at a English at a Berlitz school. if parking is switched to paral-German university.

Both times he stayed with An off-hand guess, Jahn said, Classen's parents in Wurtzburg. is the loss of six spaces per Classen himself returned to

He said that if parking spaces have to be eliminated, then the **Demo Club to** city should find a lot for offstreet parking purposes. **Sign up Voters** Another problem to the oneway plan is that much of the

congestion will not be eliminated George Stevens to drop the tax unless pedestrian control is re-A drive to sign up all voters not registered for the November election is being conducted this The councilman contends that Saturday by the North Torrance signals, already approved by Mulvihill announced.

Fifteen precinct workers will

The week of Aug. 24 to 30 has Retail Merchants Association, will be made at the commission meeting Sept. 11.

Man Kills Self is Sept. 11 Death of Russell L. Leach, 42. of 2209 W. 169th place, was

Councilmen reportedly also police, who are still probing the agreed informally to grant a two motive. per cent salary hike to city Leach shot himself Saturday and to approve a longevity pay home while his wife, Dorothy, was away. 9-3518.

Quaggin is interested in a Woolley, asserts that Patricia the students formerly at-flying Myrl C. Rupel, 29, of the students formerly at-will be lost if one-way streets When Quaggin, 19, returned when Quaggin, 19, returned career in international law and expects to return to Germany to device and was thrown against Monday from Europe, he brought study there for at least three the heavy metal side of the vewith him as his guest, Fred years, During the next year he hicle, last Aug. 25. Classen, 20, with whose family expects to enroll at Long Beach The suit claims that the rance youth was studying in Classen is interested in buy- operated the device at excessive

back to Torrance together.

ing a ranch in the southwestern speeds and in an erratic manner. Quaggin, of 1609 Amapola st., part of the United States. The action asserts that Patri-While in Germany on his cia suffered fractures of the nose as the Torrance Board of Educa. Coast highway and Cypress ave. Once under auspices of the latest trip. Quaggling supple and head resulting in permanent American Field Service, and mented his income by teaching disfigurement.

Long Beach Amusement Com-

Other Cities

Inglewood, 12th, \$99,543,670;



place in assessed valuation in the county. With estimated valuation of \$-

\$169,272,000, this city registered \$219,956,000; Vernon, \$204,735, an increase of \$25,000,000 during 000; Glendale, \$185,305,000 and the past year, Torrance Chamber Democratic Club, President John of Commerce officials pointed Santa Monica, \$185,290,000.

With the exception of Los An- of nearby cities are: canvass the northside to register geles and Long Beach, no city in voters, Persons who wish to the county has gained more than Hawthorne, 21st, \$60,512,700; Reposal made by the Chamber of register may call Murl Reeves \$10,000,000 except for Torrance dondo Beach, 28th, \$42,889,710; which far exceeded this amount. Gardena, 30th, \$39,273,850; Man- for making Fern School earth-

Fast Pace hattan Beach, 37th, \$32,529,160; Chamber officials predicted Palos Verdes Estates, \$22,362,been designated Torrance Registration Week by Mayor Albert that if the trend continues, Tor- 680; Hermosa Beach, 46th, \$16,-Isen. Deadline for registering to rance will outpace every other 780,430; Rolling Hills, 56th, \$5,vote in the November election city except for Los Angeles and 774,440, and Rolling Hills acoustical tile, better lighting, Long Beach. Estates, 58th, \$5,226,250.

The North Torrance Club will In making the climb, Torrance Sixty cities in the county were also sell tickets for the reception nudged out El Segundo and included in the survey. listed as a suicide by Torrance and luau for Attorney General Beverly Hills, which were ahead The assessed valuation figures the walls of Fern School, insur-Edmund G. Brown on Aug. 30. last year when Torrance's valu- are an important part in setting ing its strength in case of earth

Reservations may be made by ation was placed at \$144,083,000. the tax rate. The City Council quake. Work is expected to begin Leading in assessed valuation will adopt its final budget Aug. sometime next year, after state calling Mulvihill at DA 9-2188, workers retroactive to July 1, with a .22 caliber rifle in his Thrivin D. Fleetwood, at DA is Los Angeles with \$3,868,954,- 26, after it receives official noti- approval is received and final 9-3924, or Harmon Belcher, at 000; Long Beach, \$521,060,000; fication of the valuation of the plans are drawn. The cost-will Burbank, \$285,416,000; Pasadena, city. 1 be about \$300,000.

Two Youngsters Claim \$225,000 Injury Damages

Mehl cut his hands when he of \$225,000 are, pany and several individuals are sought in behalf of two Tor- named as defendants in the ac- broke the window, and was treated at the emergency hosrance youngsters in actions filed tion. pital before being booked at The suit filed in behalf of

in the Superior Court by Attorney Boris S. Woolley. Marcia Hilton claims that she Seeking \$105,000 is Patricia was seriously injured when she Montague, 11, of 1633 Date ave., was struck by a car on Lillian who claims injuries sustained in st. on April 9, while she was a ride at the Long Beach Nu walking across the street Pike amusement park. Named as defendants were

Another, \$120,000 judgment is Charles Lewis Miller, Jr., and sought by Marcia Hilton, 6, of Reiger Textile Corp.

5203 Stevann st., who alleges **Mistake** The complaint filed by Leads to

Savings amusement concession operators

A mistake turned out to have driven by Juanita Shoup of Wila silver lining for the taxpayers mington, to pull over at Pacific tion Tuesday night awarded a The suspects shined a light as \$368,414 bid for construction of they pulled along side the car,

the Lincoln Elementary School, and said. "Pull over, we're po-166th and Arlington ave., 'to lice." Carter-Mack Builders, Inc.

men.

This was the second time the they saw a man, Jack Slater, and They both got out, but when project had been up for bid. A another woman, Junita Sarvis, month ago, the board had to re- also of Wilmington, they got ject all bids for the project be back into their car and drove cause of a technical error in off. specifications. The Carter-Maek

bid was \$25,000 lower than the lowest bid the first time, saving Court House the taxpayers money. In fact **Exterior Hit** all 13 bids were lower than the previous low bid. The new school will contain

board okayed preliminary plans

quake-proof, in accordance with

state law. At the same time, the

modernized, with the addition of

glare control, and heating sys-

Steel supports will be added to

26-year-old building will

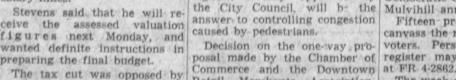
tem improvements.

His artistic senses ruffled, 13 classrooms, two kindergarten Mayor Albert Isen asked a units, administration unit, mulprobe of whether the new ti-purpose building, and music county court building in the Assessed valuation and rank building. Slated for completion civic center will conform to in late spring of 1959, it will be the exteriors of the city buildopened the following September. ings. In other building action, the

The mayor said the \$325,-000 court house, presents "a glaring contrast to the other buildings.

Isen said that the county promised that its building will conform to the city hall and police station which have a buff exterior with brick trim. thile the court house is all brick.

He asked City Manager George Stevens to find out if the court house will be painted or otherwise changed to conform to the other structures.



lel curb parking.

block.