

Dangerous Walk to New School Charged

Complaints that walkway pavement near the new Hamilton School has created a greater hazard than it was without any sidewalks will be voiced to the City Council Tuesday by a delegation of mothers.

All they have done is widen the street," asserted Mrs. Frank Anderson, of 3115 W. 180th St., who spearheaded a petition drive to provide sidewalks on 182nd St for the protection of school children.

After the petition containing 126 names was filed with the City Council Tuesday, street department crews paved a walking strip on the south side of the street Thursday.

But Mrs. Anderson maintains that the paving is on the same level and adjacent to the roadway, and that instead of solving the problem, it has aggravated it.

"We want to thank the city for the prompt help, but we'll also tell them that it is not enough," she said.

John V. Russell, director of public works, said that street department crews paved the strip on the basis of plans and specifications received from the Torrance Unified School District for three new northside elementary schools.

Mrs. Anderson said that heavy traffic on 182nd St. poses an especially critical danger. She estimated that approximately 300 students walk between Crenshaw Blvd. and the school to the east.



DANGER AREA—Students of the new Hamilton School are shown walking along the side of the street which has no sidewalks. On Thursday, city crews paved a strip, but some of the mothers insist that this has created an even greater danger since it is alongside and on the same level as the roadway.

—Press Photo

Begging Hearing Delayed

Margie Dutton's trial on a begging charge was postponed until next Wednesday on grounds that she was "too nervous" to withstand the ordeal this week.

Mrs. Dutton, 28, has pleaded not guilty to a charge of soliciting funds from a group of sympathetic ladies at the Torrance Woman's Club.

She told Municipal Judge Otto B. Willett Wednesday that she wanted a continuance of the trial because she was extremely nervous because her husband had left her and her children, and that her house is being foreclosed.

Following her arrest, police said that the blonde defendant had more than \$100 in her possession and told them she owned four houses.

STEAL WEAPONS

Six rifles and a shotgun which were hanging in the bedroom of a gun collector were stolen from the home of George Fred Karl, 4714 West 173rd St., he told deputy sheriffs. The weapons were valued at \$340.

PLAN HUGE EXHIBIT

The National Supply Company will have the largest exhibit of its history at the International Petroleum Exposition, to be held in Tulsa, Okla., May 14 through 23.

Commission Seeks Legal Advice on Fireman's Plea

The opinion of a "neutral" attorney will be requested by the Civil Service Commission to test a ruling forbidding it to conduct a hearing requested by a fireman who was passed over for promotion.

"If we don't enforce the merit system, we'll be just a bunch of errand boys," declared Chairman Ross A. Sclarrotta.

City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier advised the commission Wednesday night that it did not have grounds on which to grant a full scale hearing requested by Fire Engineer Jerry Hollomon.

Personal Reasons
Hollomon claims he was passed for promotion to captain because of personal reasons.

After receiving Remelmeier's ruling, the commission requested funds to retain a "neutral and unbiased" attorney to determine whether or not Hollomon is entitled to a hearing.

"It is not that Mr. Hollomon or Chief (J. J.) Benner are on trial, the whole merit system is on trial," declared Sclarrotta.

May Be Wrong
The chairman said that Remelmeier may be wrong in his ruling.

"We honestly feel he is entitled to a hearing. If he was bypassed, that amounts to disciplinary action. Unless we hold a hearing, we don't know what to think," he added.

Hollomon requested that a list of witnesses, including Mayor Albert Isen and Chief Benner be subpoenaed to the hearing. Request for funds to hire an attorney may be presented to the City Council Tuesday.

P.E. to Waive Landscaping Fee, Bradford Claims

Pacific Electric Company will waive its \$50 a year rental for its Torrance Blvd. right-of-way which is to be landscaped by the city.

Councilman George Bradford made that prediction following a huddle with railroad officials.

Several councilmen recently objected to having to pay PE for the right to beautify its tracks.

Purpose of the landscaping is to beautify the city's entrances.

Launch West Hi Condemnation

Condemnation proceedings were started Tuesday night by the Torrance Board of Education for five acres of land at the southeast corner of Del Amo Blvd. and Victor St. for additional West High School facilities.

In other Victor Tract site action, the board postponed choosing the exact location of a 15-acre elementary site, pending further study. A location at the southeast corner of Victor and Spence has been chosen, but more study will be made to determine which lots will be a part of the site.

Murder Suspects Plead Innocent to Barber Shooting

Trial of two youths accused of the shotgun slaying of a barber here will be held March 17 in Inglewood Superior Court.

Edward Thomas Benavidez and Gabriel Joseph Barreras, both 18, pleaded not guilty to murder charges at their arraignment before Judge John A. Shidler Friday.

They are accused of killing William Johnson, 40, a Los Angeles barber, during a holdup at 182nd St. and Western Ave. last Dec. 21.

'Leave Us Alone' Is Lomita C of C Plea

The Lomita Chamber of Commerce wants no part of any annexation to Torrance, its board of directors decided at a strategy meeting Tuesday.

The board backed up its president, Henry G. Mathews, who opposed any overtures of parts of Lomita joining Torrance.

"I wish Torrance would get off the bandwagon and leave us alone," Mathews said.

He added that the Chamber has taken no stand on another incorporation try and will not do so, unless and until a majority of the residents favor a city.

Lomita Shrank
He admitted that Lomita's area is consistently being shrunk by piecemeal annexations.

"Eventually there won't be enough space left to put our name plate on the highway," he declared.

Torrance Councilmen recently approved hiring of a city representative to determine what areas of Lomita and



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Fight Brewing Over Freeway Priorities

Held in Death Plot

Chambers Press for Freeway

Resident Is Nabbed on Murder

A Torrance man is among five suspects arrested on suspicion of slaying a wealthy San Diego bar owner last Dec. 27.

John H. Thwaites, 46, of 2080 Middlebrook Road, was arrested in Los Angeles this week in connection with the shooting of Tony Mirabile in his San Diego apartment, police said.

Arrested with Thwaites was Mrs. Jean Horton, 28, a Santa Monica waitress.

San Diego police said they rounded up all suspects with the arrest of Wilfred W. Robarge, 39, who was arrested in his Manhattan Beach home on Wednesday shortly after he returned from the Torrance municipal court house, where he had paid a traffic ticket.

San Diego police said that Robarge is suspected of being the triggerman who shot Mirabile, a free-lance bachelor who was known to carry \$1000 bills on his person.

Detectives said that two other men now in custody, Victor Buono, 40, former San Diego policeman, and Ernest Murray, 45, an apparel shop owner, are suspected of contacting Thwaites to hire the gunman to hold up Mirabile.

Progress Bared in Petitions

"Torrance is well on the way to reaching its quota of signatures on petitions to establish a Water Replenishment District in the southern area of the County," according to Roger "Pat" Hogue, chairman of the volunteer Water Replenishment Committee in Torrance. Hogue's committee is out to secure 6750 signatures by March 1.

At present the area-wide petition drive has secured about 30 per cent of the required number of signatures throughout the District, a study of reports by all local chairmen indicates.

Any local residents wishing to sign the petition will find one at City Hall or the office where water bills are paid.

"Purpose of the Central and West Basin Water Replenishment District, as the agency will be called, is to bring back underground water levels to normal by percolation of imported water into the underground reservoirs," he said.



SCRAPBOOK FOR KONYA—Gathering pictures and information, including Torrance Press clippings, for their "Salute to Konya" scrapbook are Donna Hale, Kathy Bourcier and Jerry Mann. All are members of Mrs. Elizabeth

Parrino's sixth and seventh grade class at Sepulveda School. The class is compiling a scrapbook of information about Torrance to send to its "sister city."

Broadway Charge Accounts Form in Today's Press

For the convenience of residents who have not yet availed themselves of opening a charge account at the new Broadway Department Store, a coupon will be contained on page 3 of today's issue of the Torrance Press.

The application blank may be clipped out of the paper, filled out and returned as soon as possible. By this quick attention, shoppers will have their account processed and ready for use when the new store opens in Del Amo Shopping Center in Torrance on Feb. 16.

The new department store will be located in the center on Hawthorne Blvd. between Carson St. and Sepulveda Blvd.

City Aide Balks at Paying for Victoria Drain

The city's plan to spend \$10,000 for a drain to solve the Victoria Knolls slippage problem was politely but firmly blocked by Jerome I. Scharfman, director of finance.

He told the City Council he could not pay the money until ordered by the court.

It was all part of the script, previously approved by the councilman, who want Scharfman to bring suit against the city to determine if it can legally expend the money to help residents whose homes are being threatened with an erosion problem.

Torrance Students Get Ready for Konya Day Celebration

Students in Torrance schools will join with the rest of the city in observing the "Salute to Konya, Turkey, Day" on Feb. 28, according to school officials.

Classes will exchange letters, scrapbooks, art, samples of work and other materials with Torrance's "sister city." Some classes will study different phases of Turkish life. Some may take part in the actual Feb. 28 activities.

Nejat Sonmez, Turkish government official, will visit several schools and Turkish students attending UCLA and USC will speak to local school classes.

Typical preparations are taking place in Mrs. Elizabeth Parrino's class at Sepulveda School, which is assembling a scrapbook to send to Turkey. Youngsters are gathering data from the city and Chamber of Commerce, newspaper clippings and pictures. Some of them are young photographers taking their own pictures.

The scrapbook will be divided into five sections—the city, the school, the classroom, social life, and industry. Three members of the class were picked as "typical." Pictures are being taken of them and their families to show how the Americans live.

The class also is learning Turkish folk dances so that it can take part in celebrations.

At Parkway School, where Larry Miller's seventh and eighth grade classes periodically use a shortwave radio to get first-hand information, an attempt will be made to get in touch with a "ham operator" in Konya.

Torrance High Not for Sale, Realtor Learns

School officials spent a long time deliberating—but finally decided not to sell Torrance High School.

It appears that a young prankster stole a "for sale" sign from Bill McEwen's real estate office, 22803 Cabrillo Ave., and planted it on the lawn of Torrance High School Friday.

A school official phoned McEwen later in the day and told him

"We kicked this around among ourselves and with the PTA, and decided that by the time we split the commission, it would hardly be worthwhile to sell the school," the administrator said jokingly.

McEwen sadly picked up his sign.

"Another dead day in the real estate business," he concluded sadly.

POETRY CONTEST

A poetry contest is being sponsored by the California Federation of Chaparral Poets, according to Mrs. Stella I. Fiewelling, contest chairman, of 1314 Elm Ave., Torrance.



SIGNUP AGAINST GAMBLING—Mrs. John E. McHaffie signs petition against incorporation of Victoria Park as a poker parlor city, as volunteer workers from Victoria Park Civic Council seek exclusion. Circulating petitions are Rev. Paul Garrison and Mrs. Paul Hinkle, president of the council.

Anti-Poker City Forces Launch Exclusion Drive

With the aim of killing plans for a "poker city," members of the Victoria Park Civic Council began a petition drive this week.

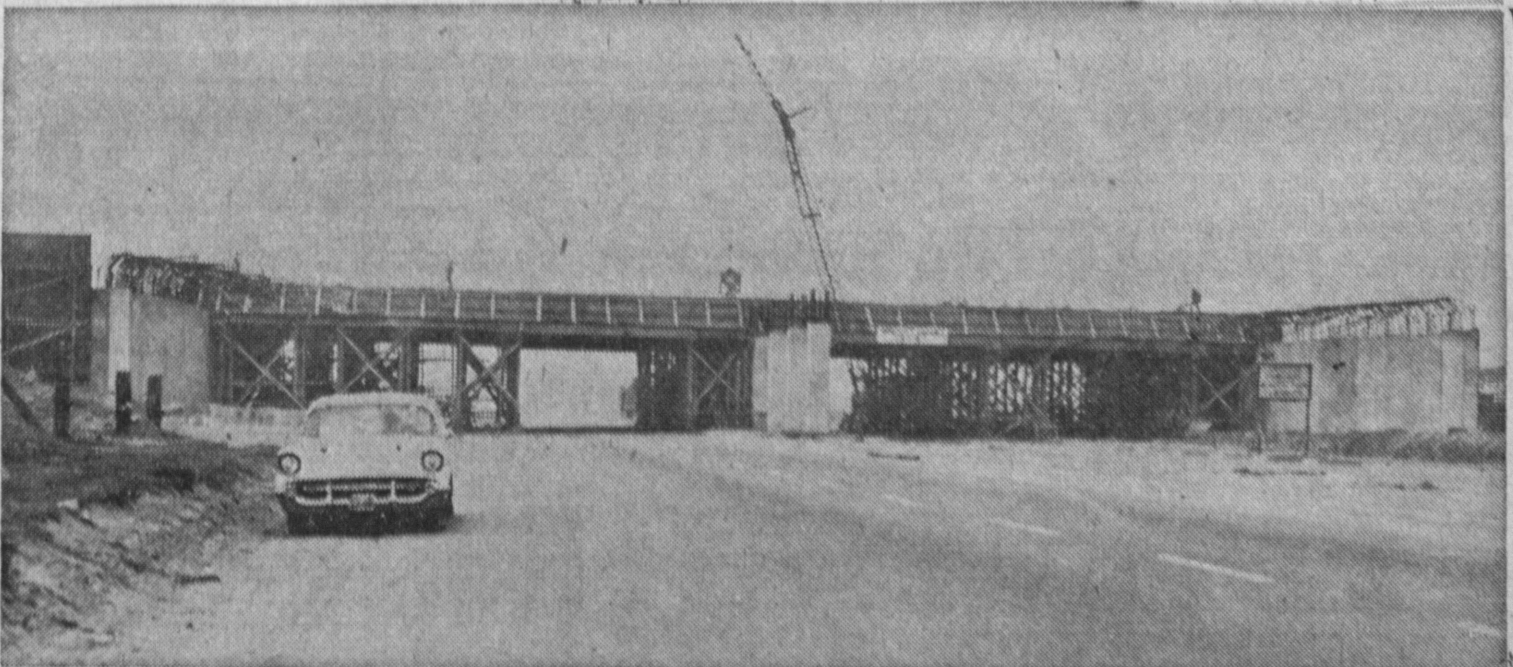
Purposes of obtaining signatures is to exclude a large part of the area from the incorporation of a 1.2 square mile area whose principal source of revenue would be from a card club.

Signatures for incorporation were turned in two weeks ago by Joseph Asaro, and the petitions are now being checked for sufficiency.

The Civic Council, which opposes the gambling city plan,

is spearheading a petition drive to block the cityhood idea by excluding a large part of the proposed city.

Rev. Paul L. Garrison, pastor of the Judson Baptist Church, is in charge of the petition drive.



FREEWAY PROGRESS—The Harbor Freeway construction moved closer to Torrance this week as workmen are shown constructing the overpass at Artesia Blvd., just west of Figueroa St. Several chambers of commerce have launched a campaign to obtain allocations for the final link of the Harbor Freeway between 190th St. and Pacific Coast Highway.

—Press Photo