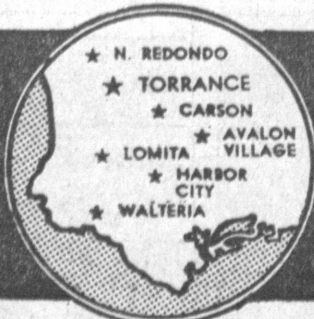


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THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1960

NUMBER 75

PARKING METERS TO STAY



HAPPIER DAYS—Friends gather around the bedside of Fred Diesel as he receives his high school diploma in June of 1956. From left to right, friends are Sherwood Tiernan, Tony Ward and Bruce Wagner, Torrance High principal at the time. Diesel should have graduated with the class of 1954 but his illness delayed completion of studies until 1956.

Frederick Diesel Finally Succumbs

A good many Torrance residents who had never personally met Fred Diesel are today mourning his death after a long and grim struggle against polio and its complications.

Frederick William Diesel, 22, suffered from the ravages of polio from his 14th year. Severely stricken, the youth continued to fight for a normal life. Even after becoming a victim to the disease in 1952, despite his forced absence from school, young Diesel persisted in his studies at home and won his high school diploma in 1956 from Torrance High.

But time caught up with the

courageous youth on Monday, Jan. 4. Complications of the illness proved fatal.

Last services were conducted from the Halverson-Leavell Mortuary in Torrance yesterday. The Reverend Peter Lee of the Methodist Church, an old friend conducted the well-attended last rites.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Diesel of 1608 Post St., an aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hansen, and a grandmother, Mrs. Verda Hansen, all of Torrance.

A host of friends who never knew him also regret his passing.

Narbonne Vote County Affiliation

Voters in County Water District No. 13 today have the results of Tuesday's election in which they voted overwhelmingly to align themselves with the county and to assume a \$600,000 water bond debt.

A total of 868 voted Tuesday to combine with Water District No. 13 while 195 registered "no" votes.

The new water unit replaces the old Narbonne Ranch Water Company No. 2.

In the existing County Water District No. 13 territory, 420 dropped ballots for the measure and 70 voted against it.

In the territory to be annexed under the provisions of the measure, 446 lodged affirmative votes and some 125 raked up "no" votes.

The City of Torrance at one time moved to integrate that portion of the district formerly under the Narbonne Ranch Water Company No. 2. Voters in

the affected area, centered around Lomita, resisted this move.

New School Needed in City

If housing development continues in the area southwest of Crenshaw and Sepulveda Blvds., another elementary school may be needed to serve the children.

Those were the facts in a report presented to the Torrance Board of Education by Assistant Superintendent Louis Kaplan Tuesday night, following a survey of developments in the area.

Plans to acquire a school site to serve a housing tract now under construction were approved a month ago. The school, designated as Hickory Ave. School, will be located at approximately 230th and Hickory Ave. when the tract is completed.

Council Lauds Dick Fitzgerald on Jaycee Award

Torrance Chamber of Commerce Manager Dick Fitzgerald bears another laurel today after the City Council passed a resolution praising him for his service to the community and for his selection as one of California's five outstanding young men of the year.

Fitzgerald, 35, was named one of the Junior Chamber of Commerce's Five Outstanding Young Men of the year in a statewide selection contest. The announcement came from San Bernardino on Monday while on Saturday, the award will be formally made at a dinner banquet there.

The City Council bestowed the honor in a surprise move on Tuesday night. Although the matter did not appear on the agenda, councilmen quickly adopted the resolution when Mayor Isen explained that there was not enough time to place it on the agenda and that it was necessary to act promptly, since the formal State Junior Chamber of Commerce awards would be made on this Saturday.

Contacted today, Fitzgerald said that he was overwhelmed with all the honors that have come his way within the last few days.

Boy Theft Ring Tracked, Caught

A series of thefts at the Torrance is solved today and the juvenile culprits are slated for appearance here before juvenile authorities tomorrow.

City Police revealed that three boys, 11, 12, and 13-year-olds, have systematically robbed parked aircraft of radios, parts, headsets, and microphones since October.

The boys, all elementary school students, made off with approximately \$1000 worth of the valuable electronic parts, according to police authorities. The boys reportedly interested themselves in radio construction with their stolen equipment.

All property has been recovered or accounted for, police say.

Capture of the three youthful thieves resulted from patient detective work on the part of police experts.

Witnesses were asked to describe the boys and an identifiable likeness of one of them was built-up from an Ident-I-Kit, a new police aid to identification. The likeness was circulated around the Torrance City elementary schools and the boy was finally tracked down.

The first boy led police to the other two. Upon arrest, the three boys were released to their parents and instructed to return tomorrow for an initial appearance before Torrance juvenile officers.

The Mysterious Case Of the Dumb Retriever

Police are still wondering today about the sacks Maverick found in the back yard of the Wild home at 3619 Lomita Blvd.

There's no question about the contents of the sacks. That's no problem. The two sacks contained marijuana.

Police are merely curious about how the sacks wound up in the back yard of the law-abiding Wild residence.

On Sunday, Norma Wild noticed their Maverick playing with one of the sacks. Curious herself, she showed the sack to her husband Walter.

One look was enough for him. Mr. Wild promptly departed for the Police Department where officers felt quite certain that the contents were marijuana leaves and seeds.

Police accompanied Mr. Wild back to his home. There they discovered the second sack — also marijuana.

Officers confess that Maverick, a handsome German Shepherd dog, offers no clues as to where he first leaped upon the sacks.

Mr. Wild says Maverick is constantly dragging in old shoes, old clothes, old bottles. This time, for a change of pace, Maverick brought home fresh marijuana.

Police gave the marijuana to the Sheriff's Narcotics Division and gave up the problem of its origin.



ONE SOLUTION—Lou Arbetter furnished free parking for his customers in front of his shop on Sartori Ave. As a short-term answer, Mr. Arbetter is headed the right way. However, a lot of coins will go into the hungry maw of the parking meter if he continues the practice until May, 1962, when the City Council of that day might consider removing the meters.

Recreation Dept. Promises Busy Slate of Events for '60

A full program of leisure activities is planned for 1960 by the Torrance Recreation Department, Director H. Van Bellehem said today.

"There's something for everyone," Van Bellehem emphasized, "whatever the age group or interest."

According to a schedule released by the Recreation Director, the program goes into full swing next week.

At the Arts & Crafts Center in Sea-Aire Park, 22730 Lupine Dr., a puppetry class for youngsters will start at 1 p.m. Saturday and a children's craft class will begin at 9:30 a.m. Both will cost \$1 for four sessions.

For adults, the center will offer a class in mosaics starting at 7:30 p.m. Monday and a course in copper enameling beginning at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. Cost is \$1 for four lessons.

The Sea-Aire Golf Course will offer golf lessons to area women at 9:30, 10:30, 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays starting next week. The fee is \$5 for the lesson, but a special rate of \$4 will prevail for members of the co-sponsoring Sea-Aire Women's Golf Club.

Also for the fair sex is a new housewife's bowling league to meet at the Bowl-O-Drome. The kegging meets, with instructions available to novices, start at 9:20 a.m. Tuesday. Cost is \$1.55 for three lines.

Instruction in tumbling will be offered to boys and girls from six through 12 years of age at

Benstead Plunge, 3331 Torrance Blvd., beginning next week. The free lessons will be offered at 4 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

On Jan. 29, the department and the Los Angeles County Museum will join in sponsoring showings of two art films at the old city hall building, 1511 Cravens Ave. "Art in the Western World" features paintings by 80 masters while "The Sword and the Flute" depicts 16th Century paintings from India. Screenings of both color movies are scheduled for 7 and 8:30 p.m.

Basketball leagues for boys between 9 and 14 years of age will begin Saturday. Interested youngsters are asked to report at the North High School or Torrance High School gymnasiums at 10 a.m. Participants must wear tennis shoes.

Registration for any of the classes is possible by calling the department at FAirfax 8-4108.

Council Votes 'No' on Trial Removal

While some citizens are unhappy today over the Torrance City Council's vote to keep the downtown parking meters, many are equally pleased.

The Council voted 5-2 to retain the meters on Tuesday night after a letter from Director of Finance Jerome I. Scharfman showed that the parking meter and city-owned parking lot debts would not be retired until May, 1962.

GOING—GONE!

After two previous failures, the City of Torrance today is finally free of a 25 foot by 100 foot lot.

Twice earlier, the City of Torrance called for bids on the lot lying on the north side of Newton St., between Ward and Madison.

Twice, the City Council felt the bids received were too far below the asking price of \$1800.

Tuesday night, City Manager George Stevens informed the councilmen that NO bids had been received by five o'clock, the deadline.

This acted as a cue for Roland Homolka, 2109 Talisman St., to jump to his feet and offer an oral bid of \$1400 for the lot.

At first, City Councilmen felt that this bid fell too far below the asking price of \$1800.

Then Councilman Robert B. Jahn pointed out that the bid was going down each time.

City Manager George W. Stevens added that this was the third time the awkwardly placed lot had been advertised for sale without success.

Councilmen decided that it might not be such a bad thing, especially when Councilman Jahn ascertained from Bidder Homolka that it was a cash-on-the-barrel head offer.

The City Council accepted the bid, with the proviso that Homolka pay certain title transfer costs.

Homolka consented to the proviso and said he would TRY to build a house on the lot.

Mixed Reactions Told on TV Test in City Classes

Teacher reaction to educational television programs has been mixed, Torrance's Assistant Superintendent Albert Posner reported to the Board of Education Tuesday.

This is the first year that TV has been tried in Torrance classrooms, with six TV sets purchased to test the value of the program. A final report will not be made until the end of the year, with mixed reactions reported now.

Nearly all teachers questioned felt that educational TV has some value, but felt that considerable improvement is needed in certain aspects of the programming.

At that time, the City Council agreed to reconsider the matter — if the present council still held office.

Mayor Isen suggested an alternative plan for trial removal of parking meters on Torrance Blvd. and Cravens Ave. but none of the six council members appeared willing to second the motion so that it died aborning.

All the council members and the mayor concurred in the conclusion that something should be done about the cost of operating and maintaining the parking meters. To that end, they directed City Manager George W. Stevens to prepare a report on meter costs and to include suggestions for cutting those costs.

May, 1962 is the date when the final payment will be made on city-owned parking lot number 2. Lot number 1 will be debt free in February, 1961. The meters themselves have a balance due of some \$2,000 on which the final payment will be made in April, 1960.

City Councilmen also learned that the meter project runs well in the red currently. In fact, during the period from July 1 to Dec. 30, 1959, expenditures on parking meters and lots exceeded parking meter collections by over \$1200.

In view of these hard facts and figures, City Councilmen decided against the proposal advanced by the Chamber of Commerce to remove the meters for a four month test period.

Several economy ideas were advanced by councilmen. One was that Water Department meter repairmen might be able to repair the meters; or, a young fellow should be hired who could perform both collections and repairs. Members were unanimous in their opinion that the police officer presently engaged in the collection job should be replaced by a civilian, freeing the policeman for more efficient use.

Councilman George Bradford objected to the way Meterettes enforce the meter rules, stating that they were too strict in their interpretation of the red violation flag. He stated categorically that he had observed at least one Meterette dismounted from her three-wheeler and waited beside a fast-expiring meter until it clicked and the red flag went up. Then, said Bradford, the unlucky motorist received a ticket.

At this point, the entire City Council indicated that a study should be made of the whole business.

Earlier, a fast-paced hearing was held on the plans to install and replace old water mains with new in South Torrance Water District No. 3. Letters of protest were read and over-ruled. Assessments against some 600 parcels of land in that district, centered around W. 23rd St., will be levied to defray the estimated \$350,000 cost of installing the new water mains.

A light note entered the proceedings when Mayor Isen introduced three Torrance High School students who were members of a 12th grade "Contemporary Problems" course.

Mayor Isen said that the three youths — Joe Montgomery, John Sandstrom, and Tom Coleman — had come to the right place for a first-hand view of contemporary problems.

"We've got lots of up-to-date problems," the Mayor grinned. Gloom soon settled over the City Council again when it was learned that the city swimming pool, the Victor E. Benstead Plunge, is urgently in need of repairs to the tune of well over \$15,000.

Wade E. Peebles, Director of Public Works, indicated that there existed some doubt as to the original architects' experience in pool design.

DON'T CONFUSE DRIVERS

Avoid driving with a foot on the brake pedal, advises the Automobile Club of Southern California. A foot on the pedal keeps the stop light burning and confuses the driver following.



SYMBOLICAL SCISSORS—With the oversize shears, a broad ribbon is cut to mark the opening of the new Marina Federal Savings office at Hawthorne and Sepulveda in Torrance. Marina Federal Savings invites you to visit. From left to right, M. Natland, Marina Board of Directors, J. H. Paget,

President of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, Mildred Beckstrand, Marina Board, Russell Chase, President of the firm, and William Richardson, manager of the Torrance Branch.

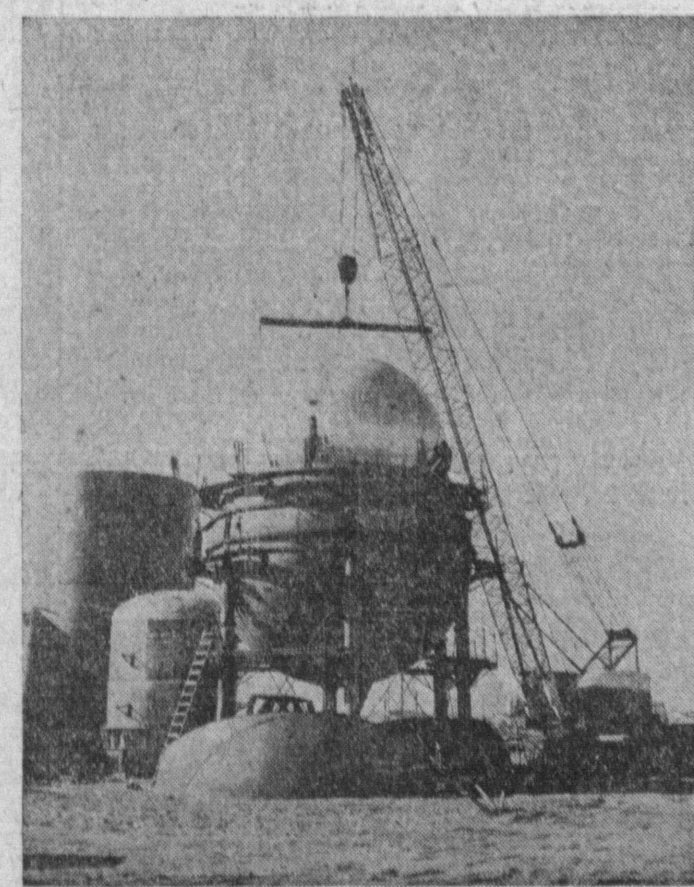
Hydrogen Storage Sphere Installed

Installation of a huge liquid hydrogen storage sphere marked a major construction phase at the new Torrance liquid hydrogen plant being built by Linde Company, Division of Union Carbide Corporation.

Riggers from Kaiser Engineers lowered an aluminum sphere 30 feet in diameter into an outer, carbon steel shell. Space in between the two spheres will be filled with a special insulation to maintain liquid hydrogen's super-cold temperature of minus 423 degrees Fahrenheit.

The sphere will hold 13 tons of the cryogenic fluid for later transfer to super-insulated truck and railroad tank cars.

Located at 190th Street and Hawthorne Avenue in Torrance, the plant will provide up to 3,300,000 pounds of liquid hydrogen annually.



INSIDE JOB — Riggers install a 30-foot diameter aluminum sphere inside a larger carbon steel outer shell at the new liquid hydrogen plant in Torrance being built by Linde Company, division of Union Carbide Corp. The specially insulated sphere will hold 13 tons of liquid hydrogen at the super-cold temperature of minus 423 degrees F. The hydrogen will be used by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for missile and space research.