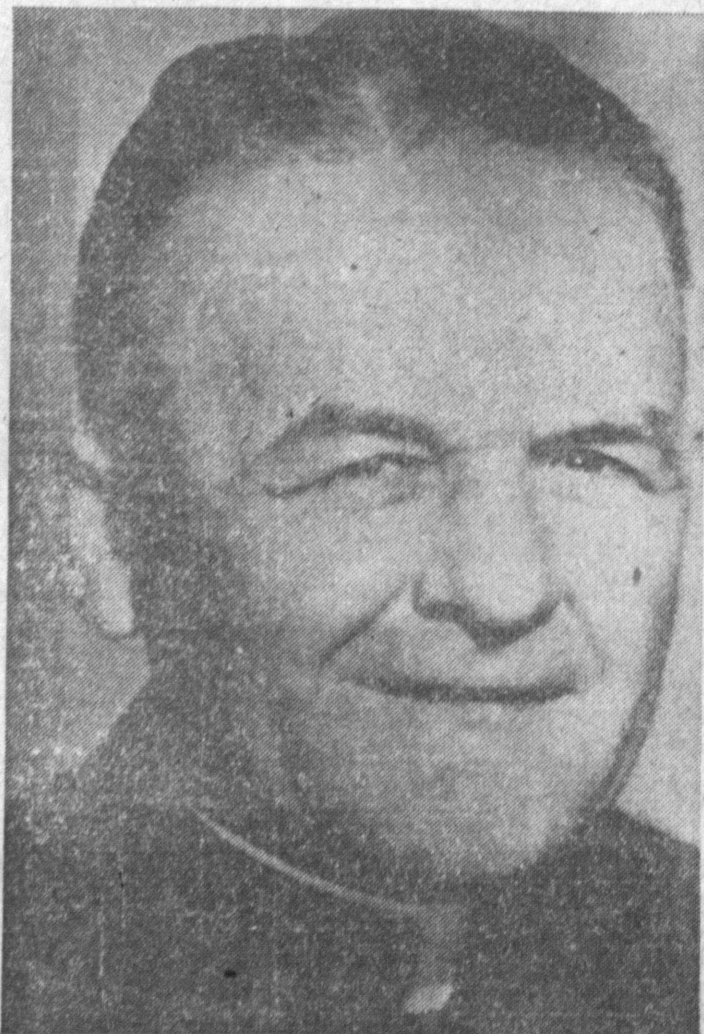


# 26 ACRE TORRANCE NAVAL ANNEX IS UP FOR 'GRABS'

## Fr. McArdle, Nativity Pastor, Dies After Brief Illness



FATHER McARDLE

A Solemn Requiem Mass was said yesterday for the Rev. Joseph F. McArdle, pastor of the Nativity Catholic Church in Torrance.

Ranking clerics of the Los Angeles Archdiocese participated in the mass for Father McArdle, who died early Monday after a brief and sudden illness.

Father McArdle, 47, had acted as pastor of Nativity Parish since November, 1957. Stricken on Saturday, he died in St. Vincent's Hospital in Los Angeles.

In addition to serving as pastor of Nativity, the well-liked priest also acted as chaplain to the Catholic Big Brothers in the Los Angeles area.

A native Californian, born in Los Angeles, he attended the 49th St. and Holy Cross schools, as well as the Los Angeles Junior Seminary.

Father McArdle then studied for the priesthood at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park. Ordained as a Roman Catholic Priest in April of 1938, he was assigned to St. Charles Parish in North Hollywood, then to St. Vibiana's Cathedral in Los Angeles.

From 1944 to 1946 the priest served as chaplain with the U.S. Navy, his duties taking him to the war-torn Pacific Theater of Operations.

After release from the navy, Father McArdle went to St. Elizabeth's in Van Nuys, then discharged the duties of administrator.

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KONYA SCRAPBOOKS — Mrs. Joseph J. Boylan and Mrs. Kenneth Boulter, president of the Junior Women's Club, inspect one of the many scrapbooks prepared for the children of Konya by Torrance youth. General chairman John Barton holds the handsome collection of photos and prints, depicting the American way of life.

## Offered to City for Park and Recreation Purposes

Torrance city fathers are today considering the acquisition of some 26 acres of triangularly shaped Naval Annex land recently certified surplus by the Federal Government.

However, if the city decides to act in an effort to gain the land for park or recreational use, city fathers will be competing against the Torrance School District and the Southern Conference of Seventh Day Adventists.

### Religious Group Shows Interest

The entry of the religious group into the fray for the sizable parcel of land came as a surprise to most observers. Disclosure of the Seventh Day Adventist interest in the land occurred Tuesday night before the City Council.

### Must Act Within Month

Councilmen read a letter directed to Harry B. Van Belleham, director of recreation for Torrance. The letter from A. D. Wilson, realty assistant in the Acquisition and Disposal Division of the General Services Administration, indicated that the city must act within 30 days to be considered for the bidding.

This is the same parcel of ground that School Superintendent J. H. Hull has sought to obtain for his controversial fifth high school.

The area is roughly triangular in shape and is located southerly of the Torrance Annex improved area. Bounded by Santa Fe Ave. on the north, Crenshaw Blvd. on the west, the main area of the Torrance Annex on the south, and on the east by a line about 175 feet west of Apple Ave., the property contains exactly 26.06 acres plus gatehouses, roads, railroad track, power line, gas and water mains.

### Special Session Called

Unable to reach a decision at the regular Tuesday night meeting, the mayor and councilmen agreed to settle the matter, if possible, at a special work session on Monday evening, Jan. 25.

Intervention of the Seventh Day Adventists gives the situation a new aspect. Outbidding by that body might result in a permanent loss to the city of the valuable parcel.

### Possible Loss to City

Acquisition by the Torrance Unified School District for another high school has met with opposition. Immediate controversy arose when Dr. Hull declared the need for the parcel and high school.

Sentiment for purchase of the parcel appeared mixed on the City Council. One important factor delays prompt decision: a lack of money in the city coffers.

## Restoration Aid Fails, as Boy 5, 'Dies' Twice

Funeral services were held today for 5-year-old Michael LeLand Reams, first pronounced "dead" after accidentally strangling himself, then said restored to life by Harbor General Hospital doctors.

Just hours after his apparent resuscitation, the lad died at Harbor General Hospital.

Today his grief-stricken parents, Edward Monroe and Floy Sue Reams, 214 E. 223rd St., stood by while last rites were read over their only son.

Heart massage and mouth-to-mouth breathing were credited with restoring the child on Sunday night. Early Monday morning, however, the child died of complications.

The boy had strangled himself with a discarded clothes line great.

## Inside the Press

For news of legislative doings in Sacramento see Page B-8 for a complete report. Also on the same page are letters and "Medical Mailbag," a new service for Press readers.

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## Torrance Mariner Vanishes at Sea

A Torrance merchant mariner is still missing today after mysteriously vanishing from a tanker at sea.

Third mate William C. Shields, sailing aboard the Union Oil Company tanker Avila on a voyage from Estero Bay to Wilmington, disappeared early Tuesday.

According to Coast Guard officials, the missing man was last seen when he left the ship's bridge at midnight. Some five-and-a-half hours later a fellow officer reported Shields missing.

By that time, the tanker had sailed approximately a hundred miles from the time and place where Shields left the bridge. The ship immediately turned about to conduct a search for the missing Shields.

A joint search by the tanker and Coast Guard boats failed to find the vanished Third Mate.

Meanwhile, his wife awaited news at the family home, 20703 Wendy Dr. in Torrance. The young couple have been married only three years. There are no children.

The Coast Guard has now called off the search and the mystery of Shields' disappearance remains unsolved.

## Harbor Church Acquires Site

The Harbor City Foursquare Church will hold worship services Sunday at 11 a. m. Sunday school will meet at 9:30 a. m. On Jan. 31 the congregation will conduct groundbreaking services at the site of its new church, 255th St. and McCoy Ave.

## New President Assumes Office

Mrs. Charles Jackson, new president of Job's Daughters Mothers' Club, presided at her first meeting last week in the home of Mrs. Glen Hardcastle.

Mrs. John Pollard opened the session with a reading of the by-laws.

Ratified as chairmen for the new year were Mmes. Willys Blount, membership; C. W. Shortle, telephone; George Crabtree, breakfast; Q. R. Skaggs, sunshine; and Mary Lenton, parliamentary.

## Half Blind, He Sees Others Are Helped

At least one young Torrance citizen believes in helping his neighbor.

This is Ed Wheeler of 22703

Ladeene Ave., who one night each week works at transcribing books into Braille writing for the visually handicapped children. So far, Ed Wheeler and the other 24 members of the South Bay Transcribers have produced 67 volumes of Braille, averaging at least 75 pages per volume.

Of course, Ed Wheeler has a special reason to be interested in this work. He can well understand the problems of the blind since he lost his right eye at the age of 8 to an arrow from his brother's bow.

So when three years ago, Wheeler attended a PTA meeting and heard about the South Bay Transcribers, he was all ears. He immediately became interested and has sustained his interest ever since then.

Wheeler, a salesman for the Corsaro Distributing Co., also works hard at securing other necessary supplies for the blind. He has arranged with the Rubbercraft Company to give rubber matting for "drawing" relief pictures. He has arranged with the Metlox Company to give free clay to a Boy Scout troop, which in turn built models of the early California missions, so that the visually handicapped students at Meadows Public School in Manhattan and Mira Costa High School could feel their history with their hands.

## KONYA CITIZENS INVITED TO CITY

Mayor and Mrs. Albert Isen announced Tuesday that invitations have been issued to the governor and other leading citizens of Konya to be guests of the city at the Konya festival Feb. 26 and 27.

The Torrance Sister City committee has made great strides in its efforts to stimulate interest and assist local Torrance civic and fraternal organizations in the people-to-people program implemented by President Eisenhower. This group, through the local service club and schools has initiated many projects in an effort to convey to its adopted sister city, Konya, a better understanding of our American way of life.

## Citizens Group Challenges Supt. of Schools J. H. Hull

A Citizen's Committee led by Henry R. Carreiro today challenged School Superintendent Dr. J. H. Hull to a debate in the City Council Chambers Feb. 4.

The gauntlet was thrown down in the form of a letter addressed to Hull and signed by the 25-year-old Carreiro. Today Dr. Hull is in receipt of the letter, which he in part has already answered with a study as to why teachers leave the Torrance schools.

No Answer Expected At the time Carreiro mailed the letter, he said, "I don't expect an answer from Dr. Hull, but at least it will show where he stands."

Carreiro said that he prefers a public forum type of discussion rather than a debate because he feels that a debate will end up in merely "referring to other authorities."

He added that the educational situation is serious in his opinion and alleged that the Torrance Unified School District is known as the "Baby Sitting Unified School District." He attributed the alleged state of affairs to Dr. Hull's leadership.

"Baby Sitting" Scouted

The Citizen's Committee formed last week is actively pursuing its announced intention of conducting an inquiry into the Torrance public schools, according to the youthful Carreiro.

An extension of the committee's scope is now envisioned, according to Carreiro. The group hopes to form a standing committee, a sort of "Vigilante Committee," to investigate other aspects of public life in Torrance.

The letter, signed by Carreiro, charges that Hull and the school board have refused to make any comment on the issues the Citizens' Committee has raised. Then Carreiro declared that the charges cannot be brushed aside by attributing them to a teacher whom Hull refuses to hire.

Wants Answer

Finally, Carreiro asked Hull to state his position at a meeting to be held in City Council chambers. The choice of a debate or public forum discussion is left to Dr. Hull, according to the letter.

But in a statement appearing elsewhere in the Press, Hull denies at least part of Carreiro's charges, in declaring that teacher turnover in Torrance is normal and can be assigned to the usual causes.

Too Perfect Our idea of the perfect gentleman is one who, called out of bed at 2 o'clock in the morning by a wrong number call, accepts the apology and says, "Don't mention it." The Albany Evening News.

will award prizes of \$20, \$10, \$5.

General chairman John Barton of the Konya-Torrance Sister Cities activities noted that these posters will help in boosting friendship and goodwill between Torrance and her sister city.

Charles Deek, vice chairman of the window trimming and poster committee, outlined the general themes to be covered in the posters, which will include outlines of the countries, flags and invitations to the public to take part in the many activities which are planned in connection with schools, home and industry tours, highlighted by a banquet at the Jump 'n Jack Feb. 27.

## Lions to Hear Prophetic Talk

Torrance Lion members will hear a talk, "Tomorrow Will Be A Busy Day," by Stary Gange, Special Consultant to the Southern California Gas Company, at their luncheon meeting Tuesday, Jan. 26.

The meeting will be at The Palms at 12:15 p.m., according to Jim Becker, program chairman.

A prominent olive grower and civic leader in Tulare County, Gange has become widely known throughout the country for his humorous and inspirational talks about Americans.

Addressing the Torrance Lions, he will speak of the tremendous growth of California and the increasing need for more fuel, water, transportation, and schools. He will tell of the expanding demand for natural gas in all parts of the nation, and the mounting costs of securing Southern California's supply from out-of-state in competition with other regions.

Jim Becker will be Chairman of the Day and will introduce the speaker.

SCOUT VOLUNTEERS MEET

Nearly 1000 adults active in Scouting have made reservations for the Los Angeles Area Boy Scout Council's 45th annual meeting, which will be held at 6:30 p. m. Thursday, Jan. 28, at the Biltmore Bowl.



FRUITS OF LABOR—Ed Wheeler watches as visually handicapped reads Braille book produced by South Bay transcribers.