

Councilmen Have No Monopoly on Junkets

By JERRY REYNOLDS
Press-Herald Staff Writer

While City Councilmen have done their share of traveling during the past 18 months, they aren't the only city officials who spend the taxpayers' money to move about the country from convention to convention.

Those other officials, in fact, have spent about the same amount of tax money — slightly more than \$15,000 — in the same 18-month period. They are the department heads, policemen and firemen, members of the city's several advisory commissions, and the city's administrative staff.

There is a unique list of professional and municipal organizations to which many of the specialists in government belong, and almost every group will hold a convention, conduct a seminar, or sponsor a tour during the course of a year.

Among the organizations are the International City Managers Association, the National Recreation Congress, and the Building Officials Conference, not to mention the International Shade Tree Conference.

In addition to the organizations, there are numerous institutes or seminars conducted each year for policemen and firemen, or for recreation leaders.

Frequently, too, top city officials accompany members of the council on trips. Eleven did so early in December when the council went to San Francisco for a day of briefings on urban renewal.

Regardless of the meeting, however, the bills are paid by the city's taxpayers.

Rules for the administrative staff and other city employes who travel on city business are somewhat different than those for the council.

They have not, however, always been strictly enforced.

The head of a department must first get approval from City Manager Edward J. Ferraro for a trip. The request is then forwarded to councilmen for their approval. Department chiefs are limited by policy to one out-of-state trip and one in-state trip each year, and funds for such travel are usually included in the department's budget.

Unlike councilmen, who need only say they've spent the money on city business, the appointed officials are expected to furnish receipts to support expenses. That requirement has been loosely enforced in the past 18 months, at least, and Ferraro admits the city has been lax. That will change, says Ferraro, who promises stricter enforcement in the future.

During fiscal 1963-64, appointed officials in Torrance sent \$9,132.84 for trips to conventions,

seminars, and training institutes. The total for the first six months of the current fiscal year is about \$4,500, but other trips are scheduled. Members of the city's commissions have spent an additional \$1,600 — not including a recent trip to Sacramento for the Governor's Traffic Safety Conference.

Total amounts are subject to some adjustment upward for actual transportation, since city vehicles are used for many in-state trips. Vehicle expenses for these trips are reported as maintenance, not travel, expenses.

During his tenure as city manager, Ferraro has traveled to Miami, Fla., for the American Municipal Congress and to Chicago for the International City Managers Association. The Miami trip cost \$729, and the Chicago visit added \$500 to the annual travel bill. The assistant city managers—

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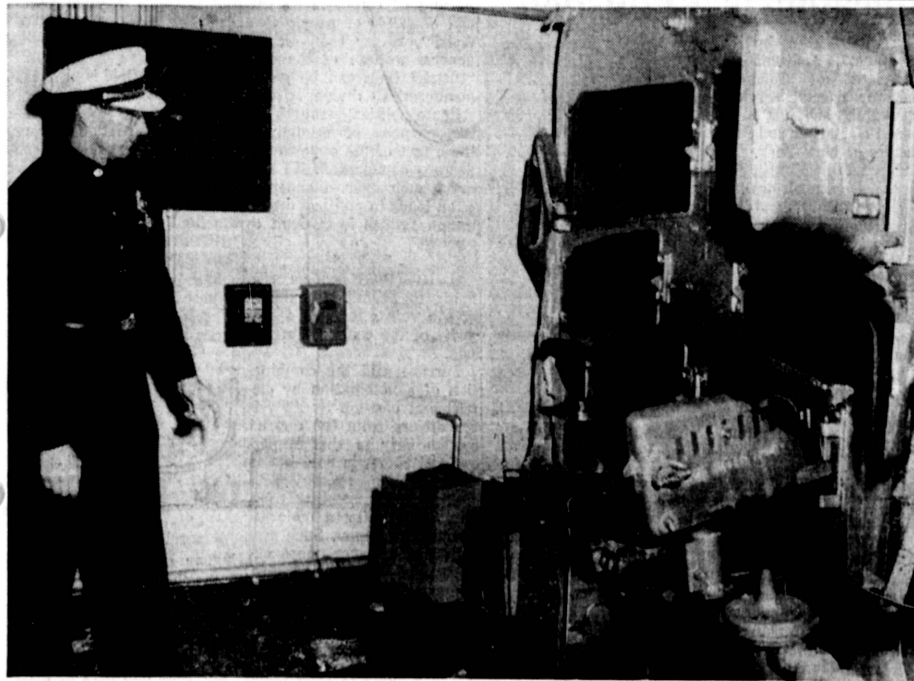
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BOILER EXPLODES . . . Bn. Chief Charles Reintsma examines damage following a boiler explosion at Torrance High School Annex early Friday morning. The purging fan in the boiler room failed to work, resulting in an accumulation of natural gas in the firebox, according to Reintsma. Both ends of the boiler were blown out, louvered windows in the furnace room and two large doors at the top of a stairway were blown off their hinges. Glass in an outside door also was blown out. No one was injured. (Press-Herald Photo)

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Five Injured in Two Crashes; Driver Arrested After Chase

Two persons were injured in a spectacular crash in a Torrance industrial tract, three were hurt in a crash at the entrance to Del Amo Shopping Center, and police booked the 18-year-old driver of a vehicle here Friday after a high speed chase through south Torrance.

Injured in a crash in the 500 block of Alaska Street in the Central Manufacturing District Friday were Raymond Charles Poulin, 20, of 14509 S. Normandie Ave., a radio operator for a nearby industrial plant; and Norman Joseph Cox, 1707 Phelan, Redondo Beach, a passenger in the vehicle driven by Poulin. Poulin apparently lost control of his automobile and hit

two vehicles parked on the street after skidding 180 feet along the roadway. The driver was taken to Little Company of Mary hospital for treatment. Cox was taken to a private physician.

THREE PERSONS were injured just before 7 p.m. Friday when two vehicles collided on Sepulveda Boulevard at the entrance to Del Amo Center.

Taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital for treatment were Darrell Henry Johnson, 37, of 23102 Anza Ave., driver of one of the vehicles; William Terlinde, 40, 24827 Oak St., Lomita, driver of the second car, and Terlinde's passenger, Anita Terlinde, also 40.

Booked at Torrance jail on charges of reckless driving and evading arrest was Francis John Canning, 18-year-old department store salesman, of 24334 Pennsylvania Ave., Lomita.

OFFICERS Morton Hesse and Dick Humphrey saw the car on Cabrillo Avenue near 231st Street traveling at a high rate of speed, they reported. The two officers took up a pursuit with red light and siren, chasing the vehicle west on 234th Street, south on Haas, west on 235th Street, and then south on Arlington Avenue.

Officers said speeds exceeded 60 miles per hour on some of the streets, and that the chase blasted through a stop sign at 237th Street and Arlington Avenue.

Solon Urges New Push for College

One Count Of Perjury Dismissed

One of three perjury counts against former city manager Wade E. Peebles has been dismissed by Superior Court Judge John G. Barnes. Peebles, however, has been ordered to stand trial on two other perjury counts.

Judge Barnes set Jan. 22 for arraignment in Los Angeles Superior Court.

The ruling was issued by Judge Barnes after taking under submission a request by Peebles' attorney that all three charges be dropped on grounds of insufficient evidence.

The former city manager was indicted on the counts by the county grand jury Oct. 8 last year.

Peebles is accused of lying about the details of a backyard swimming pool installation and about the drunken driving arrest of a former Torrance councilman.

Math Teachers Attend Seminar

Four Torrance high school math teachers presented program reports at an articulation meeting held last week at El Camino College.

Torrance was represented by Merl Railsback of North High, Allan Moore of South High, Gordon Johnston of Torrance High, and Mrs. Jane Essig of West High.

Unruh Flays Delay

A speed-up in the timetable for opening the new Palos Verdes State College has been demanded by Jesse Unruh, Speaker of the State Assembly.

Unruh, an ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees of the state college system, said, "Youth have an immediate need for this facility and the community rightfully expects the state's commitments to be honored."

A 1965 opening had been planned, but delays in the purchase of the college site and the refusal of the state department of finance to approve funds for temporary quarters have delayed opening of the college at least a year.

UNRUH SAID he had learned of the delay "with the deepest regret," and called "for the expeditious resolution of the causes of delay so that the college may begin operations as quickly as possible."

The speaker also said the students "who had hoped to study at this new college have had their plans for higher education disrupted. The community which had been led to believe that the passage of Proposition 2 bond issue would guarantee a fall, 1965, opening date was severely disappointed."

Condemnation proceedings for the college site have been initiated, but court hearings will not begin until early April. Had the land been obtained by the first of the year, college officials said, the 1965 opening schedule could have been maintained.

Hearing on Freeway Set

Public hearings on the proposed route of the Pacific Coast Freeway between Normandie Avenue and Long Beach will be held Feb. 4 in the Long Beach Municipal Auditorium.

Copies of maps showing the proposed routes and alternatives are now on display at the Crocker-Citizens National Bank in Wilmington, and at the Retail Clerks Hall in Harbor City.

Three Positions Open

Candidates for School Board May Get Papers

Applications for candidacy to the Torrance Board of Education are now available, according to Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of Torrance schools. Deadline for returning applications is March 5.

Voters will go to the polls April 20 to elect three members of the board. The terms of Albert Charles, William J. Hanson, and Bert Lynn are expiring.

Persons who wish to file an application may secure the necessary papers at the district offices, 2335 Plaza del Amo, or at the office of the County Superintendent of Schools, 155 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles.

Completed applications must be returned to the county superintendent in Los Angeles. They must be submitted by 5 p.m. March 20. The local district cannot accept the completed applications.

A candidate must be at least 21 years of age, a citizen of California, and a resident of Torrance. Candidates also must be registered voters and must not be disqualified by the Constitution or California law from holding state office.

Voters who wish to vote in the April 20 election must register on or before Feb. 25. Absentee ballots will be available between March 22 and April 13, and must be returned to the county superintendent's office by 5 p.m. April 19.

Nation's Largest

Scouts Set Parade in Torrance

Between 5,000 and 10,000 Boy Scouts, representing the four districts of the Los Angeles Area Council, will participate in a 55th anniversary parade through Torrance Saturday, Feb. 6.

H. Ted Olson, a Torrance councilman and chairman of the parade steering committee, said the parade would march down Torrance Boulevard from Cabrillo Avenue at 10:30 a.m.

Bands from 25 area high schools, military and youth bands, and several floats will be included. Sixteen area cities will participate, with mayors of all 16 in the line of march.

A grand marshal will be named shortly, Olson said. Theme of the parade is "A Good Way to Grow."

Shooting Victim Dies - - -

Arthur A. Archbold, 74, of Burbank died Wednesday evening of wounds he received in the shooting spree at three Gardena poker clubs. A murder complaint was issued early Thursday against Louis Koullapis, 70, of Gardena. Koullapis was arrested shortly after the shotgun attack on the three clubs. Two other victims, Walter J. Toups of Long Beach and Bruce McNeil of Los Angeles, remain in the intensive care unit at Harbor General Hospital.

Trustees Meet at West - - -

Members of the Board of Education will meet at West High School tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. for their regular session. The meeting will be held in Lecture Room 5213, located in the new instructional building. The meeting is the last of a series of sessions scheduled in city's high schools.

Council Meets at 5:30 - - -

City Councilmen will convene at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday for their regular weekly meeting. The council faces a light, routine agenda for the evening. A meeting of the Redevelopment Agency is scheduled for 6 o'clock.

Former FBI Official to Speak Here

W. Cleon Skousen, author, professional law-enforcement administrator and former FBI official will make two appearances in the area Jan. 21.

He will speak at the Pro-Blue Bookstore, 1308 Crenshaw Blvd., from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., and autograph copies of his book titled "The Naked Communist." His second appearance will be at Redondo Union High School Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. and he will discuss "unpublished sidelights and behind the scenes information on communism."

The speaker is sponsored by local chapters of the John Birch Society and donation is \$1.

Council District Study Handed To City Councilmen by Manager

A survey on the feasibility of councilmanic districts in Torrance just issued by City Manager Edward J. Ferraro suggests that any changes in the "local political representation should be carefully considered by the entire community before action is taken."

The report, compiled by Ferraro at the request of City Councilmen, makes no recommendations for a change, but it does suggest a slowly evolved change would be better than "an immediate drastic change."

Three general methods are used by the 76 cities in Los

Angeles County, Ferraro said. They include nomination and election of councilmen at large, the nomination and election of representatives by district, and the nomination by district and election at large of all councilmen. One city, Downey, uses both an at-large and a district method, electing four of five councilmen by district.

THE USUAL method, he adds, is the nomination and election of councilmen at large. Sixty-three cities in the county use the at-large

method, while the remaining 11 cities use a variation of the district method. Ferraro said the at-large method generally enables the city council to focus on "general welfare and large community interests as opposed to the narrow interests and purely neighborhood demands." Other advantages of the at-large system include a better chance that minority groups will be represented, the knowledge that all members of the council are receptive to the people's needs, and the fact that the voter has a greater voice in elect-

ing councilmen.

Disadvantages of the at-large system include higher campaign costs, election on the basis of a plurality rather than a majority of votes, and the inability of minority groups clustered in one part of the city to elect representatives.

A SYSTEM of election by districts is "potentially more representative because of the tendency of persons of similar economic status and social and cultural interests to reside in the same general areas," Ferraro said. He also (Continued on A-2)