

Police Vice Squad Crackdown 'Paying Off'

Torrance's crackdown on teenage drinking and on the businesses who sell alcoholic beverages to teenagers is "paying off in citations."

Sgt. Lee Ashman, commander of the Torrance Police Department's vice division, told the Press-Herald Friday his officers have issued numerous citations since the announced crackdown began in mid-October.

Efforts of Torrance Police have been aided by agents of the state's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, Sgt. Ashman reported.

The intensified enforcement program is aimed primarily at liquor stores, markets, and other firms which sell beer and liquor to teenagers. Sgt. Ashman said the problem is "beginning to resolve itself among the more conscientious businesses who

are asking further identification."

He reminded all retail liquor outlets that the responsibility is to be sure a customer is of age rests with them. "It's the store's problem to check far enough to remove any doubt that a person is under age," Sgt. Ashman said.

Much of the blame for teenage drinking and the problems it causes rests with

parents, Sgt. Ashman said. "If the parents didn't permit drinking, I wouldn't have to be enforcing these laws," he said.

Another significant factor, according to Sgt. Ashman, is the number of teenagers who work as clerks in liquor stores. In many instances, he noted, the teenage employees sell to other teenagers without question.

The responsibility, Sgt.

Ashman, said is with each store owner. He should make sure his employees have been properly trained not only to ask for identification, but to make sure the identification is valid.

Torrance police will continue their investigation and surveillance with the aid of Alcoholic Beverage Control board personnel, Sgt. Ashman said. Cooperation from the public is again solicited.

the sergeant said. His officers will continue to check out every report which is received, as well as initiate their own investigations.

In addition, Sgt. Ashman said, residents of the community may protest the locations for proposed liquor outlets by writing to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. Notices of applications and proposed locations are published in the legal section of

The Press-Herald and other newspapers.

Penalties for selling alcoholic beverages to teenagers of up to one year in jail, a fine, or both, may be imposed by the courts and dealers are subject to action by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, Sgt. Ashman said. California law prohibits a man who has a license revoked from applying for a new license.

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DAMAGED VEHICLE . . . Torrance police and firemen hoist a damaged motorcycle onto a tow truck following a Friday afternoon crash at Artesia Boulevard and Atkinson Street. Daniel Arthur Ptacek, 19, suffered multiple fractures when a car turned left in front of him. Ptacek was pinned between two cars in the accident and had to be freed by Torrance firemen. (Press-Herald Photo)

While Others Feasted

Holiday Burglars Keep Police Busy

Theft of a small television set and an unknown number of hand guns from a discount department store was reported to Torrance police early Friday morning.

A security guard checking the store, located at 20225 S. Western Ave., discovered the theft. Police said a pry tool was used to rip away siding on the building. Value of the stolen items was not reported.

A second commercial burglary was reported late Thursday evening at the Estey Musical Corp., 2133 Dominguez St. An unknown number of electric guitars, each valued at \$200, was taken from the firm.

Both burglaries were believed to have occurred during the Thanksgiving holiday when the two business firms were closed.

FOUR automobiles were burglarized Thursday and Friday, according to reports filed with the Torrance Police Department.

Tonee Marich, 18, of 3335 W. Artesia Blvd., reported the theft of a tape recorder and nine stereo tapes from a car. The items were valued at \$115, police said.

A stereo tape recorder also was taken from his car, Douglas A. Dedeaux, 19, of 3655 W. Artesia Blvd., told police. Dedeaux said the recorder and four tapes were worth about \$160.

Llewellyn Bartholomew, 24, of 209 Park St., reported the theft of an AM/FM radio from his car while parked in an industrial parking lot. Bartholomew, who also lost two fishing reels and poles, said the thief forced open the wind wing. A value of

\$140 was put on the items.

A FOURTH car, belonging to Bruce L. Demo, 25, of Lancaster, was "scalped" in a parking lot at 3535 W. Artesia Blvd. Demo told police

Sales Class Under Way At School

Twenty-eight West High students have enrolled in a voluntary five-hour course in salesmanship, according to Mrs. Beverly Annis, curriculum coordinator.

The classes qualify students who are at least 16 years old for released time in order to work during the Christmas holiday period.

The orientation program is conducted each day after regular school hours. It is designed to train students for jobs operating cash registers, wrapping packages, and other sales-related positions.

Hungary's Ferenc Nagy To Speak Here Tuesday

"Central and Eastern Europe Today" will be the topic of a lecture by Ferenc Nagy, former prime minister of Hungary, at El Camino College Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Campus Theater.

Nagy resigned his post as prime minister in 1947, when Communists infiltrated the Hungarian government. He had tried to establish a free government in Hungary; however, when he was unable to

he returned to his car to find a black fiberglass top missing. He said the top was worth \$150.

Four dozen golf balls were taken from the recreation building at Sea-Aire Park, 22730 Lupine Drive. The burglar smashed a kitchen window and removed a screen to gain entrance to the building. The park was closed Thursday when the theft occurred.

THEFT OF several small tools and a roll of 5-cent stamps was reported by Dr. Joseph Bay. Dr. Bay told police someone entered his office at 1427 Marcelina Ave. The total loss was pegged at \$23.

Police also were investigating the theft of a calculator worth \$575 from a Hawthorne Boulevard used car lot. Alice S. Cobb told officers someone entered the office at 20722 Hawthorne Blvd., Wednesday evening or Thursday morning and took the calculator.

compromise with the Communists, he left to come to the United States.

The political career of the former prime minister began after he won fame through writing articles describing local farm conditions during the early '20s.

He helped establish the Smallholders' Party, which was dedicated to assisting the farmer during the depression. Following active party

Beating Victim Better

A Torrance accountant, jailed here Thursday evening after the brutal beating of his visiting mother, has told Torrance police he remembers nothing about the incident "except kicking her once."

Robert Mowry Riddle Jr., 27, of 20359 Anza Ave., was jailed late Thursday evening after he summoned police to his apartment home and reportedly told them to "get her out of here before I kill her."

Riddle is accused of attempted murder and assault with intent to do harm. He was being held at the Torrance Jail without bail.

HIS MOTHER, Mrs. Robert E. Riddle, 55, of Oconomowoc, Wis., is reported in an "improved" condition at Little Company of Mary Hospital. She is believed to have sustained several broken ribs and broken facial bones, as well as other internal injuries.

Police arrived at the Riddle apartment about 10:50 p.m. Thursday and found the woman lying on the kitchen floor. Officers Charles Bloom and Michael Riley said Riddle was sitting on a couch when they entered the apartment.

Mrs. Riddle's face was badly swollen and her face and hair were covered with blood, the officers said. The littered apartment showed signs of a "violent struggle," they reported.

OFFICERS said Mrs. Riddle had marks on her legs, apparently the result of being kicked, and sustained multiple lacerations and contusions "on practically all parts of her body."

Riddle refused to discuss the incident with the officers. (Continued on Page A-7)

participation, he was elected to parliament and then to the office of prime minister.

Maintaining an office in Washington, D.C., Nagy and his family now live in Virginia. He tours the country yearly giving lectures.

Tickets are available at the Student Store in the Campus Center and will be on sale at the box office on the night of the lecture. Admission is \$1.

Accident Pins Cyclist Between Two Vehicles



CLOSE SHAVE . . . Barber Clement J. Bommarito goes back to work at John Medina's barber shop, 23429 S. Western Ave., after a vehicle driven by Oscar Marvin Olson, 25, of 21830 S. Figueroa St., crashed into the front, (arrow), knocking the plate glass window into the shop. "I just took off for the back," Bommarito said later. Olson said his brakes failed. (Press-Herald Photo)

NLRB Says Harvey 'Unfair' to Labor

A charge that Harvey Aluminum Co. has engaged in unfair labor practices in its dispute with United Steelworkers of America was made here this week by the National Labor Relations Board through its regional director, Paul A. Cassidy.

The company was specifically charged with laying off workers for union activity; threatening the reduction and elimination of overtime in the event the NLRB conducted election favored the

union; and telling representatives of employees that the firm would close down its Torrance operation rather than recognize and bargain with the Steelworkers union.

The NLRB charged Harvey management with interfering with, "restraining and coercing employees in the exercise of their rights."

A separate section of the NLRB charges accused the firm with improperly discharging members of the Teamsters Union.

Hearings on the charges growing out of the Steelworkers' successful election will be held in March. The Teamsters Union charge will be the subject of a February hearing.

Bank Names Local Man To New Post

The promotion of Robert Foster to the post of assistant vice president at Bank of America's Wilshire-Sweetzer branch, has been announced by bank officials.

The Narbonne High School graduate entered the banking field 16 years ago, following attendance at El Camino College and the University of Southern California.

He and his wife, Wilma, live at 22927 Broadwell Avenue. They have three children: Linda Sue, 13; David, 9; and John, 5.

City Councilmen To Take Holiday

Torrance City Councilmen will celebrate a delayed Thanksgiving holiday Tuesday by taking a short vacation.

Councilmen will forego their regular meeting because the Thanksgiving holiday delayed preparation of the agenda. The next meeting is scheduled at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 7, at City Hall.

Crashes Keep Traffic Crews Busy in City

A 19-year-old motorcyclist was in "serious" condition yesterday at Harbor General Hospital following a traffic accident here Friday afternoon, one of many accidents which kept police traffic crews busy Thursday and Friday.

Daniel Arthur Ptacek, 4158 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., was treated at Gardena Hospital and then transferred to Harbor General Hospital following the 3:45 crash.

Ptacek suffered multiple fractures of the legs and arms and sustained numerous cuts and bruises when his motorcycle and two cars collided at Artesia Boulevard and Atkinson Avenue. Torrance firemen were called to the scene to free Ptacek, who was pinned between the two cars.

POLICE SAID a car driven by Antonia Perez Blas, 75, of 513 W. 105th St., Los Angeles, and a car driven by Carmel Mae Fox, 38, of 2509 W. Redondo Beach Blvd., were involved in the crash.

The Blas vehicle made a left turn onto Atkinson Avenue in front of the motorcycle, officers reported. The Fox vehicle was northbound on Atkinson Avenue at the time.

Officers said Blas failed to yield the right of way when he made his turn and struck Ptacek's motorcycle and the

Fox automobile. Ptacek was described as "alert" by a spokesman for Harbor General Hospital.

A SECOND accident victim is in good condition at Gardena Hospital following a 9:30 a.m. crash Friday.

Lomis Alexander Gilpin, 45, of 17404 Falda Ave., was admitted to the hospital after his vehicle struck a car driven by Iris Ann Johnson, 26, while traveling north on Crenshaw Boulevard in north Torrance.

Torrance police said Gilpin apparently was following too closely when he struck the Johnson car from behind.

A THIRD accident Friday resulted in the arrest of a 33-year-old Torrance man on suspicion of driving under the influence of alcohol.

Police said Robert Paul Foran, 20810 Anza Ave., was treated at Little Company of Mary Hospital and then booked at the Torrance jail. The Foran vehicle struck a car driven by William David Cain, 42, of 2065 W. 255th St., about 10:30 p.m. at Pacific Coast Highway and Hawthorne Boulevard.

Foran, officers said, apparently failed to stop for a red signal while northbound on Hawthorne Boulevard. Cain had just started across the intersection when the accident occurred.

New Judge Appointed - - -

Attorney Raymond Choate of Manhattan Beach, president of the South Bay Bar Association, has been named judge of the South Bay Municipal Court by Gov. Edmund P. Brown. Choate, a Democrat, received his law degree from the University of Southern California, and has been practicing in Los Angeles since 1949. The new judge will replace Judge William Keene who has been elevated to the Superior Court bench by Brown.

Vandals Enter School - - -

Three classrooms at Anza Elementary School, 21400 Elinwood St., were left in "great dbarry" Thanksgiving Day by vandals. A teacher doing some extra work discovered the damage about noon Friday. Torrance police said language laboratory equipment had been damaged in one room, while a fire extinguisher was discharged in a second room. Unknown chemicals were dumped into an aquarium in a third room, killing fish and other marine life.

Freeway Talks Due - - -

Three State Division of Highways officials will discuss plans for the proposed Pacific Coast Freeway through Harbor City and Lomita Thursday at a meeting of the Narbonne Coordinating Council. The meeting is scheduled at 7:30 p.m. at the Harbor City Elementary School, 1508 W. 25th St. S. L. Elicks, R. H. Williams, and V. E. Hall plan to discuss proposed routes for the freeway. The adopted route now ends at Gaffey and Anaheim streets in San Pedro.