

Election Tuesday on Disputed Bond Issue

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Torrance

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GOOD DRIVER . . . Joan V. Kirka, a senior at South High School, displays a plaque presented to her by the Automobile Club of Southern California for her perfect score on the written and driving sections of the California driver's license test. Miss Kirka is the 11th Southern California student to be recognized for her perfect scores in the year-old Driver Training Performance Award program. The 16-year-old winner lives in the Riviera section.
(Press-Herald Photo)

Thieves Smash Store Front, Flee With 36-Suit Wardrobe

Youths Injured When Car Slams Mail Bin, Wall

Four persons sustained minor injuries in two twilight traffic accidents here Friday. A 16-year-old South High student and his passenger were treated at a Redondo Beach medical clinic following a crash at Dalemead Street and Weston Road about 6:20 p.m. The youth apparently lost control of his car after he missed the brake pedal and instead hit the accelerator. Rocky King Vladimir, 24233 Madison St., the driver, and Frank De Caro, 14, of 3338 Danaha St., suffered minor cuts in the accident. Vladimir told police he was approaching Weston Road from the west at about 40 miles per hour and hit the accelerator by accident. The vehicle then went out of control, struck a U. S. Mail stor-

Board Split On Approval Of Proposals

Construction bond proposals totaling \$13.5 million — the first to be actively opposed in the community — will be handed to the voters Tuesday by Torrance Unified School District. The two propositions on the ballot call for a \$12.5 million issue for general school construction and another \$1 million for swimming pools at the four high schools. Two members of the Board of Education, Dr. Kurt Shery and Bert M. Lynn, have publicly opposed the measures and the Press-Herald Wednesday recommended rejection of the \$12.5 proposal as being too high. Two other members of the Board of Education, Mrs. Kenneth Watts, president, and William J. Hanson, vice president, have issued public pleas for approval.

In a statement to the Press-Herald yesterday, Hanson said he was concerned with what he called misleading statements being made against the bond issue.

"The \$12.5 million size of the bond issue has absolutely no bearing on the amount of money that is spent each year," he said. "For years it has been necessary to spend the maximum allowed by law to keep up with the classroom needs of the new children added to our schools each year." Hanson said the need was now about \$3 million a year and that the dispute was whether a bond issue should last for three years or four.

"Extra elections cost money and I begrudge the time and every extra dime that is spent," he said. On the other hand, both Lynn and Shery have claimed that the \$12.5 proposal contains construction proposals such as the \$3 million vocational center which are not necessary at this time.
(Continued on Page A-3)

Other Thieves Ransack Home, Get Stereo Set

Nearly \$3,500 worth of men's suits were taken from a downtown Torrance clothing shop early Friday by burglars who tossed a lug wrench through a plate glass window. Mike Kasino, 29, of Kay's Men's Shop, told police 36 suits — all sizes 39 and 40 — were taken. He placed the value at \$3,420. Torrance police investigating the theft said the burglars apparently knew exactly what they wanted and where to get it "because of the short time between the alarm and the arrival of police units."

Store employees told officers two customers had visited the store on Thursday and appeared to be "casing" the shop for the burglary. The burglary occurred about 4:45 a.m. Friday.

SEVERAL other burglaries were reported to police Friday by homeowners throughout the city. Frank Pagac, 1528 Post Ave., told officers someone entered his home in the afternoon or early evening and ransacked several rooms. He reported 26 U. S. Silver dollars and \$5 in miscellaneous coins missing. Police checking the home said the burglar apparently used a candle to search the home.

Theft of a stereo record player valued at \$95 was reported by Mrs. Connie Hertel, 28, of 5232 Emerald St. Mrs. Hertel said half a dozen albums also were taken. She reported the theft at 4 p.m. Friday. Tools and a tool box valued at \$91 were taken from the garage at the John W. Crawford home, 17229 Atkinson of 5502 Via del Valle.

Hickman Cited at Academy

Cadet Donald E. Hickman, a 1963 graduate of South High School, has been named to the Superintendent's List at the U. S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Cadet Hickman earned a perfect 4.0 grade point average during the fall semester, giving him a 3.88 cumulative grade point average. (4.0 is equal to a straight A.)

A junior at the Academy, Cadet Hickman also has been named to the Dean's List and the Commandant's List.

While at South High, Hickman played football and was active in several school clubs, including the Scholarship Society and the Russian Club.

Other South High students who are now attending the Air Force Academy include William R. Latham III, a senior, and James B. Schindler, a freshman, John A. Hewitt Jr. was graduated last June.

Cadet Hickman is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hickman of 5502 Via del Valle.

Commercial, Industrial Building Set Pace Here

Construction activity in Torrance, which hit a five-year low during 1965, has shown some signs of recovery, John J. McKinnon, superintendent of building and safety, has just reported. McKinnon, in his monthly report on building permits issued by the city, said \$2,749,050 in new construction is planned under permits issued in January. The figure is the highest reported for a January since 1963, when nearly \$2.9 million in permits were issued.

Commercial and industrial construction accounted for more than \$1,250,000 in valuation, the report shows. Home construction is responsible for another \$800,000 in the January totals, McKinnon noted.

LARGEST project listed in the January report is the addition of facilities at the Mobil Oil Co. refinery here. Four permits, with a combined value of \$675,000, were issued for construction at the refinery. A new control house, two cooling towers, and pipe supports were covered by the permits. An \$80 million expansion program currently is under way at the refinery, although much of the work is not subject to building permits.

A \$12,000 permit was issued for an addition to the warehouse facilities at Standard Brands Paint Co. Another block of four permits was issued for construction of a new automobile dealership at 23505 Hawthorne Blvd. The permits, issued to Paul's Chevrolet, are valued at \$327,750.

OTHER commercial construction will include a \$42,000 professional building at 25416 Crenshaw Blvd., a \$94,000 retail complex which will house ten stores in the 4500 block of Sepulveda Boulevard, a \$109,000 permit for construction of a new bank in the Del Amo Center, and a \$310,000 permit for air conditioning in the new Bullock's Department Store.

Other large permits issued during January include a \$25,000 addition to the central fire station at Carson Street and Crenshaw Boulevard, and a \$24,000 addition to the Walteria Community Church at 3646 Newton St.

New home construction includes a 24-unit apartment building, to be located at 2825 W. 235th St., and 20 single-family homes. One new duplex was included in the totals.

THE FINAL DAY . . . An annual event, as predictable as the return of the swallows to Capistrano on St. Joseph's Day, is the return of the motorist to the late, late lines in front of the local Department of Motor Vehicle offices on the final day for regis-

South High Girl Wins Music Grant

Miss Emily Karr, a South High sophomore, has been awarded a full-tuition scholarship to the Music Academy of the West at Santa Barbara for the summer session, July 5 through Aug. 30.

Miss Kaar, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Philip Karr of 5507 Calle de Arboles, plans to make music her career.

The Music Academy of the West training program is for gifted students who plan to make music a career. Miss Karr won her violin scholarship in an audition at the academy.

Student Collapses During Class, Pep Pills Blamed

A 16-year-old North High student was treated for a possible overdose of barbiturates Friday afternoon after he passed out during a class.

The boy passed out during a late afternoon class. A classmate told officers the youth had taken some pills, a statement which the boy later denied. Doctors at Gardena Emergency Hospital said the youth's symptoms indicated a possible overdose of barbiturates. He responded favorably to treatment, police reported.

Policemen To Attend Bomb Class

Four Torrance Police officers have enrolled in a 40-hour bomb disposal training course to be conducted by the U. S. Army's 58th Ordnance Detachment at Fort MacArthur, according to Chief of Police Walter R. Koenig.

The four officers are William McLean, Eugene Guest, Gary Rippstein, and Myles Hamilton. The course will begin Monday, Feb. 14.

The training involves instruction on the characteristics, hazards, composition, breakdown, and disposal of both military and commercial propellants and explosives, Chief Koenig said.

Trustees Set Meeting

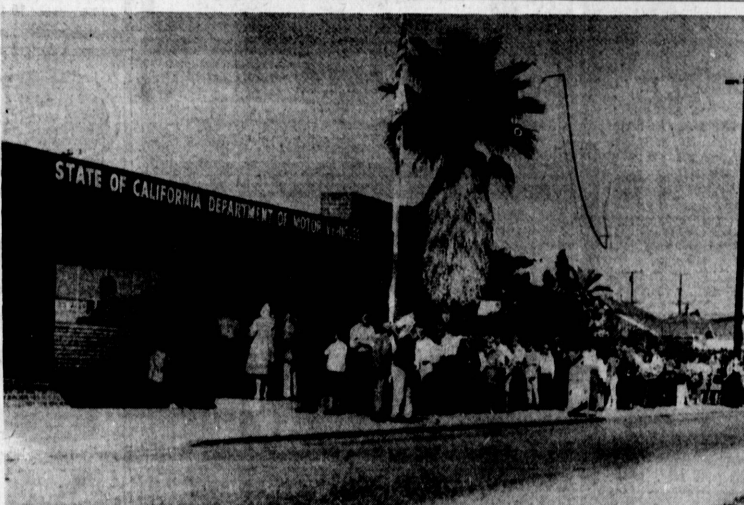
The Board of Education will convene at 7:30 p. m. tomorrow for its regular meeting. Among items to be considered is the calendar for the 1966-67 school year. Adoption of the calendar was postponed at the December meeting because it failed to provide a break between the regular school year and the 1967 summer session. Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, will recommend adoption of the original calendar tomorrow.

Clerk Gets Prison Term

Thomas Lee Olson, a 27-year-old grocery store clerk, has been sentenced to state prison after pleading guilty to one count of arson and a manslaughter charge. Judge Allen Miller of Inglewood Superior Court sentenced Olson on the arson charge, but dismissed the manslaughter charge. An arson charge calls for a prison term of 2 to 20 years. Olson, arrested Sept. 13, 1965, after he was seen leaving the scene of one of several fires, pleaded guilty to the charges Jan. 7.

Truancy Case Pressed

Torrance school officials Thursday asked the City Attorney's Office to press charges against John H. Tofflemire, who withdrew three of his children from school here in November because of children's records which he claims are "subversive." Deputy City Attorney Thomas McNary told the Press-Herald Friday he will seek a meeting with Tofflemire this week. "I am hopeful this matter can be resolved without court action," McNary said. School officials said they have sent Tofflemire three warnings about the state's compulsory attendance laws.



THE FINAL DAY . . . An annual event, as predictable as the return of the swallows to Capistrano on St. Joseph's Day, is the return of the motorist to the late, late lines in front of the local Department of Motor Vehicle offices on the final day for registering vehicles without penalty. Friday was no exception, as this photo by Press-Herald Photographer Hal Fisher shows. The lines were long and seemingly slow-moving. It'll be a lot quieter if you are waiting until Monday. It'll be more expensive, too.