

Dr. Hull Stricken at School Meet

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KIDNAP, ROBBERY TEAM SOUGHT

Exclusive Club Welcomes Chief

One of the city's most exclusive fraternities initiated its newest member here Friday night. Retiring Police Chief Willard H. Haslam became the third member of the retired police officers' club.

On hand to welcome their veteran colleague into the ranks of the exclusive fraternity were former Chief John H. Stroh and Sergeant G. S. "Bill" Evans, who preceded Haslam in retirement.

Also on hand were more than 250 other friends of Chief Haslam as he was toasted at a dinner meeting at the American Legion hall. The guests at the dinner included most of the off-duty officers of the department, members of the Torrance Police Reserve, Torrance Mounted Police, former police officers who now are members of the California Highway Patrol, Los Angeles police department, and the sheriff's office; and the city's official family, including all of the councilmen and top city officials.

Teeners Perform
Adding the light touch to the evening of accolades for Haslam were three high school performers, Charlotte Johnson and a racy Charleston; and Alice Mewborn, and Diana Cook who sang for the group.

Haslam, known for years as "Pop" to his many friends, has let it be known that he is going to do a little fishing now that he's retired, so the officers equipped him with a complete outfit for the sport. Other gifts were presented to him by city employees, reserve officers, crossing guards, and the General Petroleum Corp., with whom Haslam was associated before joining the city nearly 30 years ago.

Stroh Here
Traveling to Torrance for the event from his home in Yucaipa was former Chief John H. Stroh, whose retirement three years ago paved the way for Haslam's elevation to the chief's post.

Others on hand to pay tribute to Chief and Mrs. Haslam included their daughter, May Haslam, a teacher in San Pedro; Judges John Shidler and Otto Willett of the South Bay Municipal Court, and Asst. Dist. Atty. William B. Keene.

Haslam's retirement was effective April 1. Asst. Chief Percy Bennett, who shared the spotlight with Haslam during the evening, has been named acting chief pending examinations for a permanent chief.

Chase Suspects Still Missing, Police Say

The two men who led officers from three police departments on a wild chase through Palos Verdes, Torrance, and Redondo Beach, Wednesday, still have not been found, officers said yesterday.

In a chase at speeds up to 110 miles per hour, the pair, driving a stolen car, left in their wake three wrecked police cars, three damaged private cars, and a wrecked motorcycle. They abandoned their stolen vehicle, filled with bullet holes, in Redondo Beach and fled on foot.



CLUB MEETING . . . Chief Willard H. Haslam (left), whose retirement became effective April 1, is welcomed into the ranks of retired Torrance police officers by the only two other officers in retirement, Sgt. G. S. "Bill" Evans (center), and Chief John H. Stroh (right). More than 250 persons toasted Haslam at a retirement party Friday evening.

Victim Taken Into PV Hills

A kidnap-robbery team who took a Lomitan into the Palos Verdes hills at gunpoint before robbing him of \$160 is being sought by Torrance and Southland police today.

Edgar McDaniel, 47, of 2104 Lomita Park Pl., told Torrance police that he had just cashed a payroll check at a market at 23747 Arlington Ave. Friday before noon when he was taken at gunpoint by two suspects he described as male Mexicans, 24 to 25 years of age.

McDaniel said he was returning to his car parked on the street in front of the market when one of the suspects approached him and said:

"Come on, get in my car!" The second suspect was sitting in the car parked on the street just ahead of the victim's car.

The victim and one suspect climbed into the rear seat of the auto, police were told. He was then driven over to Crenshaw Blvd. and onto Crest Rd. in the hills.

When they had traveled far enough to see Marineland on the coast below, McDaniel said the suspect turned on him and stated:

"Gimme your wallet." Dumped Out After taking the \$160 in bills, the suspect returned the wallet and dumped McDaniel out, he told police.

McDaniel told officers he walked all the way back to Lomita, arriving about 3:45 p.m., or nearly four hours after he was first accosted. He then came to Torrance to make his report.

The Council also will consider the recommendations of a committee studying the alleged violations of its variance by the Longren Aircraft Co. A nine-member committee is scheduled to meet tomorrow to study the matter.

Other topics to be brought up includes a change in the lights in front of Crenshaw School and stop signs at Vista Montana and Newton St.

The Council will study a request from Battery D, 885th Missile Battalion, for assistance in naming the Nike site located on the edge of the Torrance Airport.

School officials said that part of the proposed site could be used as a drainage sump, so that the school would not contribute to the drainage problems of the area.

The school is expected to relieve Seaside School's double session problems and officials hope it can be completed sometime during the next school year.

School Chief Critical After Heart Seizure

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of Torrance schools, was stricken with a heart attack late Friday night while attending a superintendents' meeting at Paramount. He was reported in critical condition yesterday at Torrance Memorial Hospital.

The 48-year-old educator became ill at the superintendents' meeting and one of the group took him home, believing it to be a recurrence of an old digestive upset. He became worse and was rushed to Torrance Memorial Hospital, where he remained in very critical condition, according to his doctors, Edward Knutson and Robert Nielsen, although he was reported slightly improved.

Dr. Hull celebrated his 10th anniversary as head of the mushrooming Torrance school system last Monday. He formerly served as superintendent of the school system at Corona and Keenesburg, Col.

Only members of the immediate family were allowed to visit. His attack was described as a "myocardial infarction."

Assistant Superintendent Albert N. Posner will probably be able to act as superintendent until Hull is able to return to his post, School Board President C. A. Mewborn said. Mewborn said he would contact other board members to determine what action, if any, needs to be taken.

Committee Begins Study of Schools' Reporting System

A 19-member committee began the study of whether seventh and eighth graders should receive letter grades Thursday at a meeting in the Torrance Board of Education chambers.

Headed by Mrs. Margaret Denmark, curriculum specialist for the School District, the committee is composed of administrators, teachers, parents, and representatives of business organizations.

The committee will consider whether the present non-grade type of report cards used in elementary schools should be changed to the graded variety for seventh and eighth graders, so that youngsters will become accustomed to the grading system in high school.

Suggestion Studied
Under study is the suggestion from some parents that they felt grades should be

given to the upper levels in elementary schools to make the transition to high school smoother.

At present, parents of students in kindergarten through the eighth grades receive written evaluations, but no grades. In the reports, teachers try to evaluate the work the child is doing and explain the level of work which he is doing in the classroom. This is combined with an oral conference with parents, in which the same subject matter is covered.

Grades Given
In high school, however, children are given grades in all subjects. This is done mainly to meet college entrance requirements, since certain high school grade standards are set up for admission.

At its first meeting Thursday, the committee organized and considered various aspects

of the grading system and the development of children.

Members Named
Members of the committee include John F. Brislin, Richard S. Fitzgerald, John Miller, Dr. Glen Grimsley, Mrs. Donald Hauser, Mrs. Warren Boggs, and Mrs. D. D. Tuggle, representing parents; Tom Rische and Ralph Gompertz, representing newspapers; Mrs. Lyda R. Willis, Roderick McDaniel, Jean R. Gellerman, George W. Ackerman, and Gerald T. Ronan representing teachers; and Robert D. Allen, Lloyd Jones, and D. Boone Kirks, representing administrators.

Consultants to the group are Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent; Dr. Albert N. Posner, assistant superintendent; and Miss Gertrude Burbage, curriculum consultant.

Petition Studied

Sent to committee for study was the petition of Tom S. Howard, 24264 Neece Ave., for a variance and conditional permit for apartment development on the northeast corner of 24th and Neece Ave. First formal hearing will be April 17. The land now is zoned for duplexes.

The Norris Construction Co. proposal for construction of 25 homes and four triplexes on property at the southwest corner of 174th and Ainsworth Ave. was sent to committee for study. Under present plans, the firm would place the triplexes on the corner, facing 174th St., while the homes would be built behind and south of the multiple units.

Hearing Planned
A hearing on the El Nido rezoning question probably will be held some time in May, it was indicated. Planners have

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Planners Back County Center

The Torrance Planning Commission threw its support behind the proposal to put a huge county park and sports center in Torrance at its meeting Wednesday night.

The park has been proposed for the recently annexed Victor Tract land west of Henrietta St., between Torrance

and Del Amo Blvds. Commissioners discussed the possibility of de-annexation of the land, since the county might be reluctant to spend money on territory belonging to Torrance, it was indicated.

Another giant park development, proposed by the Columbia Broadcasting System, on property at 190th and Hawthorne Ave., was dropped from the agenda at the request of the petitioners. CBS originally had proposed a golf course, driving range, and sports shops on the site. Indications are that the development will not be made at this time, however.

Variance for Calle Mayor School Asked

Plans to request a variance from the city to allow construction of Calle Mayor School, just north of South High School, were approved Tuesday night by the Torrance School Board.

Development of the site would require filling a part of the Walteria Lake drainage basin. A city ordinance prohibits fills in that area until further development of the area is completed.

Sewers and garages for proposed apartments on 174th St. between Glenburn and Yukon Ave. held up Planning Commission action on the B & A Investment Co. request for a variance and conditional permit to build the apartments in an agricultural zone.

Since the City Council objected to proposed 10,000 square foot zoning for agricultural property in the area west of the Civic Center, the Commission held the matter over for two weeks, for further study.

Temperatures

	High	Low
Sunday	68	43
Monday	69	42
Tuesday	77	52
Wednesday	74	45
Thursday	73	51
Friday	73	51

2 Youngsters Hit by Autos

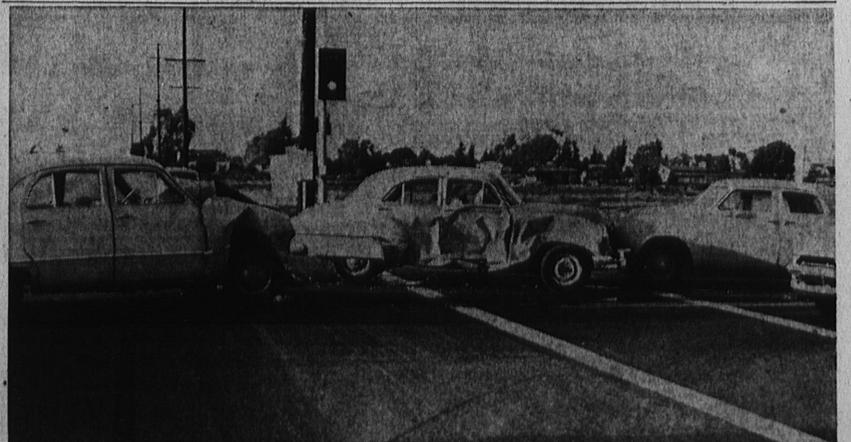
Two Torrance youngsters were badly hurt in different accidents which occurred late Friday afternoon.

Five-year-old Toni Thompson, 1123 Greenhedge Ave., was treated for a broken collarbone at Harbor General Hospital after she was struck by the car of Violet Smead, 4236 Via Pinzon, Palos Verdes, near 212th and Normandie Ave.

Jeffrey Letterman, 2, received a possible skull fracture when he ran across the street in front of his home, 16816 Yukon Ave., and was struck by a car driven by Richard Wilkinson, 16927 Yukon Ave. He was reported in serious condition at Harbor Hospital.



DEMOLAY HEAD . . . Kent Jackson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Winfred Jackson, 3480 Del Amo Blvd., will be installed as master counselor of the Torrance chapter of DeMolay next Saturday night.



TRIPLE HEADER . . . The corner of Hawthorne Blvd. and Lomita resembled a downtown freeway for a few minutes Thursday evening as three cars were involved in a noisy crash. Cars driven by John Grub, 63, of 1621 Acacia;

Dorothy Lea Shaver, 48, 2244 W. 241st., and Iva Luella Bell, 50, Hermosa Beach, tangled at the corner. Grub received face lacerations and the Shaver woman received bruises. Both were treated by private physicians.