

PROPOSAL OF CITY TO PAY \$6,000 FOR SCHOOL LAND IS HIT BY PARENTS GROUP

The people of Torrance have paid many times over for the block of land at Fern ave. and El Dorado st. which it is proposed that the city should buy from Los Angeles city schools for \$6,000, a letter to the City Council from the Torrance Parents' Association, read Tuesday night, said.

It was suggested that if the land is to be acquired by the city the cost should be a nominal legal fee, not more than \$10 because the people of Torrance "already have paid for this ground many times over."

Councilman C. M. Gilbert, who is chairman of the City Recreation Commission which asked the purchase of the block of land, said that the purchase was being held up until after the start of the new fiscal year.

Mrs. Evelyn Carr, chairman of the TPA, said that the association is not opposed to playground use of the property, but that it is opposed to paying for the land when the taxpayers already have bought it in excessive revenue to Los Angeles for running the local schools.

The parents' association has undertaken and is carrying on a campaign to bring about the withdrawal of Torrance schools from the Los Angeles city school system on the ground that for each \$1 paid by Torrance for operation of its schools, only 50 cents is spent on local schools and that to teachers who, with but few exceptions, live outside of Torrance and spend their money outside of Torrance.

It is estimated that the amount Los Angeles will collect in or on behalf of Torrance this school year over and above the money spent in operation of Torrance's three grammar schools and one combination junior-senior high school will amount to more than \$300,000.

"With this money," Mrs. Carr has declared, "we could build and pay for a new \$1,000,000 senior high school in less than four years. With this money we could build two badly needed elementary schools, paid for completely, in one or two years."

"We are paying for the best for our children, and are getting the worst. The condition will not change until we take over our own schools for our own children and those of nearby areas which under law we would be required to serve."

The Torrance Parents Association secured the introduction in the present session of the state legislature of a bill which would give Torrance, a sixth class city, the right to vote on whether or not it should own, operate and maintain its own independent schools. The Los Angeles city school lobby has succeeded to date in "burying" this bill in committee not wanting the people of Torrance to have a democratic voice on the question of its schools.

Torrance residents are not allowed to serve on the Los Angeles City school board, as board (Continued on Page 4)

New Industries Contemplated For Torrance

Two new industries are contemplated for the Torrance industrial district south of Carson st. and east of Crenshaw Blvd. It has been revealed.

Negotiating for purchase of land in the area are the Chicago Bridge and Iron Co. which at present maintains a plant in the shoestring area at Normandie ave. and Carson st.

The other firm also reported to be negotiating is the Ervin Foundry and Manufacturing Co. and a companion firm, Alloy Metal Abrasive Co. Land involved is said to be at Jefferson and Vine.

Both firms are reported to be in the process of purchasing land from the Chancellor-Canfield Midway Oil Co.

Sisters' School for 300 Children Of Grades 1 to 8 Will Be Built Here

Immediate construction at the end of hostilities of a Sister's school in Torrance for children grades one to eight is planned, according to announcement of Father McGuinness, pastor of Nativity church.

To cost about \$80,000, the new school will consist of eight rooms and it will provide classes for approximately 300 children. The school will be under the jurisdiction of Father McGuinness and a staff of Sisters who will comprise the faculty.

Already approximately \$8,000 has been raised toward the cost of the school for which \$40,000 is sought in the present fund-raising campaign.

The location has not yet been



OKINAWA CASUALTY
1st Lt. Gordon W. Nelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Nelson, of Torrance, was one of the thousands wounded in the battle for Okinawa which is coming to a successful close. He tells his story in an article printed on page B-2 of this edition.

Doris Reid Murder Trial Set July 10

Mrs. Doris L. Reid, 32, charged with the knife-slaying of William K. Strang, 40, ship's rigger, here a few weeks ago after a dance during which the victim was assertedly too friendly to his former wife, will go on trial July 10 in superior court, Los Angeles.

Superior Judge William R. McKay set the trial date after Mrs. Reid pleaded innocent to murder charges at an arraignment hearing.

The stabbing, taking place opposite the Torrance police station in Torrance for approximately 12 years, according to Chief of Police John Stroth.

Way Cleared For Widening of Alondra Streets

Assembly Bill No. 1256 by Assemblyman Glenn M. Anderson, which enables the county of Los Angeles to widen the streets around Alondra Park, was signed this Tuesday by Governor Warren and will go into effect this September.

The old law prohibits the dedication of any portion of a County Park for highway widening purposes and would have forced the county to condemn the property facing the park, if they wished to proceed with their plans of improving and providing adequate access to Alondra Park.

Two Men Are Released From German Camps

The Office of War Information this week released the names of two local men who have been liberated from German prison camps in recent weeks.

One is 2nd Lt. Vyrle W. Darold, 2474 W. 25th st., Lomita. The other is Sgt. Wallace V. Taft, of 1807 W. 214th st.

Palos Verdes Captain Reported Killed in Italy

News has just been received of the death of Captain John H. Moffitt, of Palos Verdes Estates who was killed somewhere in Italy on May 15. Captain Moffitt was serving at this time with the Allied Military Government. He was also in the last war.

decided upon, according to Father McGuinness. The project has had community-wide support from the time it was first mentioned, it was said.

Members of the Society of Nativity of Catholic Church unanimously pledged their support of the campaign to raise funds for the new Sisters' School last Sunday at the annual Communion breakfast. The breakfast was held in the parish hall, and August O'Conner, attorney of Manhattan Beach, was the guest speaker of the occasion.

Joseph Eisenbrandt sang two solos accompanied by Mrs. John V. Murray at the piano.

C. M. Gilbert Again 'Full-Fledged' City Councilman

Councilman C. M. Gilbert again is a full-fledged member of the City Council.

The city fathers Tuesday night took action to rescind his leave of absence for military service because the Army has told him that his induction has been postponed indefinitely. He still is in I-A classification, however, he said. He is 32 years of age.

Two More Men Of Torrance Die in Action

First Lieut. Raymond K. Cruze, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pinkney S. Cruze of 2514 Dominguez, has been listed by the Army as dead.

Cruze, 28, was reported missing over the English Channel more than a year ago when the plane he was piloting did not return to base. His parents were notified in April, 1945, that he was presumed dead.

He also leaves two sisters, Patricia Lou and Mrs. LaVerne Sevier, both of Torrance. Lieut. Cruze had lived in Torrance for six months, coming from Kansas.

Arnold L. Bilefemich, 20, A. A. E., was killed on Leyte last May 5 when his plane crashed. A gunner on a B-29, the serviceman had been overseas for about a year.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Lena Bilefemich, of Burr, Neb., and a brother, Bernard, U. S. N. He is well known in Torrance having made his home for about 18 months with Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Vaughn, of 2115 Andro ave. while he was employed at Doak Aircraft Company.

City Court Fines \$3725 During May

From May 1, to and including May 31, 1945, the City Court of the City of Torrance received \$3725 from fines and fees. Of this sum \$121.50 are general fund monies, while \$2603.50 came from vehicle violations and thus are road fund monies.

General fund monies were collected from the following cases: Drunkenness, \$409.50; Parking, \$114; Boulevard Stop, \$195; "U" Turn (City Ord.), \$18 and miscellaneous criminal violations, \$385.

Road fund monies were derived from the following: Drunk driving, \$832.50; speeding, \$1,565 and miscellaneous traffic violations, \$266.

A breakdown of the number of criminal and traffic cases actually handled and the disposition follows:

Violation	Total	Guilty
Drunkenness	35	33
Drunk Driving	10	9
Speeding	137	132
Parking	65	58
Boulevard Stop	39	37
U Turn (City Ord.)	6	6
Misc. Traffic	162	45
Misc. Criminal	17	16
Felonies	2	0
	471	336

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TO RAISE FUNDS FOR NEW SCHOOL . . . Members of the Society of Nativity of the Catholic Church in Torrance are shown above in Communion breakfast meeting Sunday at which they pledged unanimously to support the campaign to raise funds for a new eight-room Sisters' school for Torrance to cost \$80,000.

POWELL OPPOSES LEGION'S EFFORT TO PROVIDE MORE SEATS IN LOCAL BALL PARK

Torrance has under consideration a proposal that the seating capacity of Torrance Ball Park be increased to 4500 capacity in order to attract and handle big events in Torrance.

The matter was brought up by Bert S. Crossland Post No. 170, American Legion, which stated that it is planning to bring a 31-day semi-pro Southern California baseball tournament to the park in July and August.

Councilman C. M. Gilbert said that the park needs the additional seats and moved that the matter be referred to City Recreation Superintendent Dale Riley for his recommendation. Councilman N. H. Cucci agreed and seconded the motion which carried by a 4 to 1 vote.

Dissenting was Councilman G. V. Powell who said he had never seen the park overflowing with a ball game.

The members of the American Legion Post say that they expect to put as many as 5000 persons in the park each night for several weeks, drawing baseball fans to the popular tournament from all communities surrounding Torrance.

Mayor W. H. Tolson declared that the park is filling to capacity now many nights a week, with fans watching the Torrance Industrial Softball league games.

The park now has a seating capacity of 1500 persons, and it is said that 4500 seats are needed to attract big events and handle the crowds which would attend events here if seats were available.

Torrance Annual Rodeo committee recently requested that the city investigate the possibility of building new seats, as it each year brings from 3000 to 5000 persons to the park. H. C. Callahan, chairman declared that the rodeo committee has engaged 2000 seats from a rental company at 19 cents per seat, and that the rodeo committee would be glad to apply that rental on the cost of the seats to the city.

The big rodeo, to be held July 4 this year, is expected to attract six or seven thousand persons, and the committee is working with the American Legion Post on its project, donating proceeds from the sale of the program to the Legion post. The post also will handle the concessions at the park during the big annual rodeo.

Three Local Men Are Wounded In Pacific Area

Pfc. William W. Dennis, serving with the 32nd Red Arrow Infantry division suffered mortar shell wounds on Luzon last April 30. He has recovered completely and returned to his company, according to his wife, the former Jane Chandler. With their sons, Patrick 5, and John 3, Mrs. Dennis lives at 2211 Andro ave.

Dennis had been overseas just one year to the day when he was wounded, Mrs. Dennis reported.

Another Torrance soldier reported, wounded in the Pacific Theatre is Pvt. Valentin N. Gonzales, Rt. 1, Box 115. The Army announced his wounds this week.

Pvt. Edwin L. Morey, Jr., of 2061 240th st., Lomita, also was reported wounded in the Pacific area this week.

Summer House To Be Office

The summer house at Torrance Municipal Park will be converted into an office for the recreation and park departments at a cost of \$200 as a result of action Tuesday night by the City Council. The action was recommended by Councilman C. M. Gilbert at the request of Recreation Superintendent Dale Riley.

Several members of the Torrance City Council and other officials were guests at a dinner at Torrance airport of British officials and Hindu merchant marine officers who are stationed at the flight strip awaiting assignment to a British ship in the harbor.



At the speakers table are, left to right, Frank Forestter, Don Pennington, August O'Conner, O. J. Chicoine, President James L. Lynch, master of ceremonies, Father McGuinness, Joseph Landerville, secretary, and James Collingsworth. (Bill Husbands photo.)

Construction of Pueblo Sewer Is Given Approval

Advertisements for bids for construction of the sanitary sewer on 203rd st. on the Pueblo district were authorized by the City Council, Tuesday night.

The council also retained Harold A. Barnett, engineer, to prepare the assessment data relative to the new sewer district. There have been no protests to its formation.

Santa Fe Gets Permit to Run Line to L.B.

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company was authorized by the Interstate Commerce Commission Tuesday in Washington to extend its main line through Torrance into the Long Beach harbor district.

This will provide Torrance with another direct connection with the fast growing Long Beach section of the harbor and its vast shipping facilities, it was pointed out.

The commission's action was contrary to a recommendation of its examiner, Ralph R. Molster, who held that the Santa Fe had not shown sufficient necessity to require construction of the two-mile extension before the end of the war.

The commission said "it is clear that the ability of the Union Pacific, the Southern Pacific and the Pacific Electric to serve Long Beach and the public generally will not be impaired or lessened by this construction."

"Long Beach has grown to be a city of 250,000 people and many industries, and service by all the trunk lines already serving the contiguous part of the harbor area is needed to assure the city's continued welfare and growth."

'Row' Among India Natives Echoes in Jail

A Hindu was in the calaboose here for a few hours one night last week. Well, maybe not a Hindu, but an East Indian.

According to Police Capt. Ernest Ashton the man was put in jail in protective custody for a few hours on request of the officer of the day at Lomita Flight Strip.

A "row" appeared to have originated with one of the Indians after another Indian of the wrong caste came into a bar racks and woke everyone.

It was later settled and the man released.

The Indians have been quartered in the barracks while awaiting assignment to little coastal cargo ships being built by Consolidated for lend-lease on the British account.

The Indian was offered a meal in jail here. He shunned pork, potatoes, string beans and carrots but ate a morsel of corn, which he raked as far across the plate from the meat as was possible, and drank a cup of coffee.

There are said to be three conflicting castes quartered here. But when they sail a British ship the fact remains they're all in the same boat.

O'TOOLE ELECTED

James J. O'Toole, Torrance, was elected commander of Chapter 63, Tri-Cities Disabled American Veterans, Sunday night. Gordon F. Arnold, Torrance, is adjutant. The chapter was organized last year, and Representative Cecil R. King is a member, O'Toole said. Members include disabled veterans from Torrance, Gardena and Redondo Beach.

TORRANCE - REDONDO BEACH MUNICIPAL BUS SERVICE IS AUTHORIZED BY COUNCIL

Bus service between Torrance and Redondo Beach, Clifton Rivera and Walteria, by way of Torrance Blvd., will be established by Torrance Municipal Bus lines in about two weeks, Councilman N. H. Cucci announced Tuesday night after the City Council had authorized the line.

The new service will eliminate the Walteria line via Narbonne ave. and 101 Highway, and the cost will be about the same, Councilman Cucci said.

In moving for the establishment of the new line, which will mean that nearly all sections of Torrance will have bus service, Cucci pointed out that the department made a gross revenue of \$11,655 during the month of May, and that revenue has increased nearly 100 per cent since Jan. 1, 1945.

The service schedule is being worked out by Manager C. Z. Ward and Cucci and it will be on about a one-hour basis, Cucci said.

The new schedule will eliminate service to Lomita residents between Narbonne ave. and Walteria along 101 Highway, but it will provide a means of public transportation between Redondo Beach, Torrance Beach and Torrance, a service needed for years, it was pointed out. The War Manpower Commission manpower utilization division recently asked that a line be established to Redondo Beach to serve men working in Torrance high-priority war plants and living in Redondo Beach.

No Sunday Improvement
No mention was made of the additional service requested on Western ave. to 203rd st., where residents have asked for more buses particularly on Sunday, prior to and after church services.

Cucci asked the council whether or not it should take up with Gardena city council the question of the permit by which (Continued on Page 4)

Baccalaureate For THS Class Sunday, 4 P. M.

Dressed in their navy blue and white caps and gowns, the seniors will attend their baccalaureate services in Central Evangelical Church at 4 p. m., Sunday, June 17, 1945.

The program will consist of the Professional hymn, "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," to be followed by the invocation given by the Rev. Ben Livingston, First Christian Church, after which the St. Andrew's Junior church school choir directed by Mrs. Kay Meier will sing "The Lord Is Mindful of His Own."

The Rev. Harry Branton, pastor of the Methodist Church, will give the scriptural reading, after which the choir will sing, "The Cherubic Host."

This is to be followed by the baccalaureate address by the Rev. Paul Moore Wheeler, rector of the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. The hymn, "Would Be True" will then be sung and the Rev. Arthur Pederson, pastor of Four Square Gospel Church, will give the closing prayer. There will be a prayer response by the choir. The closing hymn will be "Be Still My Soul" followed by the recessional.

Torrance Hi Commencement Party To Be Thursday, June 21, at School

Forty-eight girls and 26 boys will graduate from Torrance high school June 21 at 8 p. m. in the school auditorium.

One of the boys scheduled to graduate, Robert Gerhardt Maxfield, son of Mrs. E. W. Clark, 1419 Beech ave., will receive his diploma in absentia. He was to have been one of the student speakers at the graduation exercises, but was called up by the Navy and yesterday left for San Diego. Maxfield, 18, named to the Ephemeral society, is a member of the California Scholarship society, and an Eagle Scout. He had enlisted at 17 and was awaiting his call.

The graduation exercises, will be conducted by faculty and students of the high school. Students who are listed for graduation from the A-12 class are:

- Girls**
Eunice Paula Abramson, Gail Duane Abramson, Bettie Border, Betty Ruth Coley, Faye E. Cottrell, Carol DeBra, Mary Jo Dewitt, Barbara Louise Eynon, Betty Jean Fiesel, Bettie Lou Foster, Barbara Fulmer, Betty Gene Goetsch, Dolores Hanka, Grace Hjerpe, Bettie Johnson, Phyllis Jean Lane, Barbara Jane Lock, Shirley Jean Justice, Mary Marguerite McGarry, Mary Frances Miller, Virginia Doris Moore, Barbara Jean Moyer, Rose Marie Newkirk, Nadine F. Paour, Bertha L. Parez, Nelda R. Parker, Dora Jean Pitman, Marie A. Raimey, Dorothy L. Ream, Colleen F. Reese, Peggy Rae Rester, Darlene Rice, Jane Ritchie, Patricia L. Rojo, Doris Orene Sage, Lucille Smith, Harriet J. Sparelich, Elsie Anne Stanley, Shirley Thompson, Doris Lorene Tomson, Patricia G. Townsend, Betty Jo Tucker, Julia Marie Viellenave, Lela A. Wade, Helen R. Wells, Dorothy May Whiting, Dorris Jean Wilkes, Nancy Jane Wilkes.
- Boys**
Gilbert M. Armstrong, William Gene Bynum, Cecil Dean Carlton, William E. Cates, William Edwin, C. O. Robert Curry, William F. Davis, Charles F. Duane, John Robert Garner, Weir Henderson, Richard W. Honrath, Gerald Jackson, Philip A. Lisman, Thomas A. McWald, Robert Gerhardt Maxfield, Clifford B. Murr, Ramiro Ordaz, Kenneth E. Owens, Alfred Pabst, Ralph H. Pegors, William Allen Reams, Raymond Fives, William Clair Shamer, Werner H. Sommer, Lloyd C. Warthan, Jr., Roy V. Holloman.