

Los Angeles Schools Unpopular With Public, Property Owner Group Says

With the record that the Los Angeles Board of Education has with the general public, it is not likely that the people would approve a bond issue for \$15,000,000 worth of new schools, according to officials of the Property Owners Association of California in the current bulletin, "Tax Facts."

The bulletin reads: "Superintendent Vierling Kersey's tentative budget, or what he called a statement of requirements, as presented to the Board of Education on May 17, 1945, called for the expenditure of almost \$52,000,000-excluding Federal Fund Programs. This was \$8,754,000 greater than the comparable budget of 1944-45. It would have raised the school district tax rate by more than 34 cents, based on last year's assessed valuations!

"Practically all this increase was scheduled for salary raises. Superintendent Kersey proposed that an additional \$20 per month war bonus be added to each employee's salary, increasing that employee's war bonus salary adjustment to \$45 a month and costing the taxpayers of the district in excess of \$3,000,000! There were numerous other individual pay raises and the hiring of 435 new teachers proposed also.

"As a result of analysis of this budget, and our resultant militant presentation before the Board of Education, this \$20 a month additional salary bonus was defeated and the taxpayers were saved more than two million dollars by the final, more moderate program adopted. Other reductions were eventually made, as well as adjustments in the estimates of revenue from all sources, and, as a result, instead of a 34 cent increase in the school tax rate, the taxpayers face only an 8 cent increase.

"No more important problem faces the taxpayers of Los Angeles than this problem of adequate financing for the schools. Despite the continued generosity of the taxpayers and citizens in providing more and more dollars for the education of

their children, the school officials still increase their demands.

"Ten years ago, in 1935-36, the budget for school purposes totaled \$32,967,708. For the year 1945-46, the comparable budget totals \$51,915,572!! An increase in ten years, of \$18,947,864—and enrollments are practically the same!

"To make matters worse, during the war years, the Board of Education was forced to let needed maintenance work go undone, and to almost completely abandon its program for new buildings and facilities. Instead of accumulating the money that would have normally gone into these expenditures, the Board has used the funds for salary increases. As a result, the district is now faced with the prospect of an urgent need for some \$15,000,000 worth of new buildings—not counting the needed maintenance work required on the old buildings. It must either adopt a pay-as-you-go plan of meeting these expenditures, or come to the taxpayers for approval of a bond issue. It has, with this new budget, about one-third of the money it needs for the new building program.

"With the record that the Board of Education has with the general public, it is not likely that the people would approve a bond issue."

Jim E. Huffman Is Serving on Oahu in Pacific

Jim E. Huffman, seaman first class, USNR, whose wife, Ethel Janette Huffman, lives at 1813 Cambridge ave., Torrance, is serving aboard the U. S. S. OAHU in the Pacific as a member of one of the ship's 20-mm anti-aircraft gun crews.

Huffman entered the Navy in March, 1944 and received his basic training at San Diego, Calif. He is now in his fifteenth month of overseas duty.

R. C. Cannon Is New Pastor At Church Here

The Church of Christ meeting in the Torrance Men's Bible Class bldg., 1319 Cravens has



R. C. Cannon

secured Evangelist R. C. Cannon to serve as minister. He is a graduate of Harding Christian College, Searcy, Arkansas. He has done some graduate work at the University of California, Berkeley, and is now doing graduate study at George Pepperdine College in Los Angeles.

Evangelist Cannon has spent ten years in successful evangelist and local work. For three years he served the church in Graton, California, followed by three years and a month with the Church of Christ in Berkeley, California.

The church in Torrance is anticipating great growth under the leadership of Mr. Cannon. His messages this Sunday will be: "She Did What She Could," "God is Love" and "The Plans for the future include a new building on Cravens near the Men's Bible Class buildings. It is possible that the building will be completed near the first of the year, 1946.

Air Markers Urged for All Communities

The Civil Air Patrol has gained the co-operation of the General Petroleum Corp. in erecting air markers on the Pacific Coast. This company will provide approximately 250 markers to start, in officially selected locations on roofs, hillsides and by roadsides.

In many instances their storage tanks and warehouse roofs will be utilized for these markers which will be of official chrome yellow and black with letters ten to twenty feet high, according to Clarence S. Beechmyer, vice president and director of marketing for General.

Others interested in establishing markers should contact the CAP Wing headquarters in Los Angeles. Air maps containing information as to the location of these markers will be published by the CAP showing each city and town properly marked. This, it was pointed out, gives each out-of-town and community a chance for national prominence.

PAY \$180 EACH

Los Angeles Board of Education announced an agreement whereby Beverly Hills City Unified School District, Culver City and Palmdale School Districts will pay the Los Angeles City high school district a sum of \$183 per pupil for the number of seventh and eighth grade pupils attending Los Angeles junior and senior high schools under provisions of the agreements for the current school year.

TORRANCE MAY SECURE PARK SITE FOR FIRE STATION, CITY COUNCIL IS INFORMED

Torrance probably can negotiate for the county park property at Carson st. and Plaza del Amo for use as a site for the new fire station, Architect A. R. Walker reported this week.

The county has turned a deaf ear to Torrance's request for transfer of the property from the county to the city, largely because of deed restrictions which provide that the land be used for parks only.

Walker declared, however, that the county is willing to turn the property back to the successors to the Dominguez Land Co., donors of the land, if they in turn will give the land to the city for fire station purposes. This method of securing the site will be attempted, it was said.

Plans already have been prepared for the station on that site, providing for a two-entrance building, driveways designed from both Carson st. and Plaza del Amo. Estimated cost is \$50,000.

Plans also have been prepared by Walker for the reconversion of the present fire station into a police station. Considerable repair will be necessary to the fire station building and the estimated cost there is about \$12,000.

Likewise, the addition to the Civic Auditorium and Public Library are being planned and sketches made for proposed recreation buildings in Torrance and Wateria.

Local CAP Group Attracts Nationwide Interest

Local Civil Air Patrol activities at the Lomita Flight Strip in Torrance surpasses far any other CAP group in the United States, according to Capt. C. H. Holmes, group commander.

The national spotlight was recently turned on this unit, which is partly due to increased membership since the first of the year. There are 1234 members against 30 a year ago today. Contributing reasons are unlimited facilities for training the air cadet, successful encampments had at this base and the full co-operation between Capt. Arthur Anderson, ATC, base commander at this port and the CAP, Captain Holmes said.

According to Holmes, the average class instruction hours per month in this group has increased to 9,000 and may be doubled within the next 90 days. Hundreds of letters per week are pouring in to Captain Holmes from youngsters all over the United States, seeking enrollment for the next summer encampment. The recent 15-day encampment was attended by California girl cadets only, Holmes said.

An 8-day Air scout and CAP cadet boys camp, which ended Sept. 2, brought high praise from the national scout commissioner, he reported.

The commander is desirous of obtaining a larger turnout from both Torrance and Lomita districts. This invitation is for adults as well as teenagers, he said. Many of the cadets have been given orientation rides free in the various army craft and, according to Holmes, this should at least invite some speculation from here.

PRODUCTION UP

Production of Texas grapefruit in the past winter season was three times the combined production of California and Arizona, reports the California Fruit Growers Exchange.

God is able to meet the need of all and fulfill every desire; it is just a question of your hunger for righteousness.

— R. A. Butler

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Jeff W. Bell Stationed at Treasure Island

Jeff W. Bell, seaman, first class, USNR, of 1813 Cabrillo avenue, Torrance, has reported in at the U. S. Naval Armed Guard Center, after spending 14 months as a member of a gun crew aboard a merchant ship.

The Armed Guard Center on Treasure Island directs the training and assignment of all officers and enlisted personnel of Navy gun crews of merchant vessels in the Pacific.

A COSTLY FAWN

Killing a spotted fawn was a costly procedure for Ignatz Trenkwalder of Windsor, when Judge J. L. Wehr of Geyserville fined him \$250 and confiscated his gun.

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Lt. Dunstan With Fleet In Tokyo Bay

Lt. Bill Dunstan, U. S. Navy, son of Mrs. Edith Dunstan, 1828 256th st., Harbor City, is now



reported with the invasion forces in Tokyo Harbor. The lieutenant is well remembered in this community despite his many years at sea, and perhaps better known to all for his outstanding athletics at Narbonne High school.

Among other decorations, the lieutenant has been awarded seven battle participation stars. A younger brother, Harry, boat-swain's mate 2/c, also is believed to be in that area, according to Miss Alice Dunstan, a sister, connected with the Bank of America in Lomita.

Torrance Scout Camp Open for Weekend Events

Camp Vaughn Scott, local Scout camp, will be open to Scouts on week ends and holidays for camping and special events, according to word received here.

Facilities are made possible to this membership through the financing of the Boy Scout movement of the Los Angeles Area Council by the War Chest, Floyd Forker, council president said. No charge is made for the use of camp facilities.

CENTER TO MOVE

Torrance Area Service Center for Community Chest Agencies soon will move into the 1927 Carson st. building formerly occupied by the U. S. E. S. according to information received here.

Clergy to Meet With Victory Chest Leaders Sept. 19 to Plan Campaign

More than a thousand members of the clergy of all faiths will gather in the Gold Room of the Ambassador Hotel on Wednesday, Sept. 19, at 11:45 a. m., when the Inter-Faith Council and the board of directors of the Los Angeles Area Victory Chest will sponsor a luncheon meeting in behalf of the 140 agencies united in the Los Angeles Victory Chest. Justice Thomas P. White, chairman of the Council will preside.

Members of the Council from the Harbor district include Rev. Paul Lomax of the Lomita-Harbor City area; Rev. S. A. Thwaitt and Rev. James McLaughlin of San Pedro; Rev. John V. Hegarty and Rev. E. E. Reeves, Wilmington and Rev. A. C. Murray of Gardena.

With the campaign for a \$8,042,373 goal now under way in the 35 associated cities and towns of the Chest, the reason why the money is needed this year will be explained by Lynn D. Mowat, general manager of the Chest.

He will explain that the Victory Chest dollar will be divided so that 49 cents is spent for home front services from which the entire community benefits, 32 cents for occupation troop services and veterans centers; 14 cents for food, medicines and clothing for relief in devastated countries and five cents for expenses.

Other speakers will be Evelyn Luzuriaga of Manila who will tell of three years of life under Japanese rule and present conditions in the Philippines; Miss Helen Bowman, of Los Angeles whose topic will be "Here at Home"; Captain Don Woodward, Eighth Air Force bomber pilot, who explains services of the Veterans' Service Center.

Victory Chest sabbath will be observed on Saturday, September 29 and Sunday, September 30.

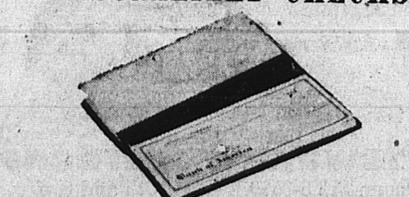
Plans are moving forward for the big radio and motion picture personal appearance show to be held in the Hollywood Bowl on September 29, when campaign volunteers only will be guests.

H. M. McCollum Buick Dealer In This Area

Lt. H. M. McCollum, was officially appointed this week Authorized Buick Dealer in this area, to be operated under the name of "McCollum Buick" at 910 Hermosa ave., Hermosa Beach.

Lt. H. M. McCollum has lived in Southern California for 20 years.

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It isn't all over—Over Here

At a time when all America is rejoicing over final Victory, it isn't easy to sound a somber note. But the effects of years of war cannot be erased overnight. The return to normal conditions will take place gradually—step by step.

So it is with the railroads... with Union Pacific. Millions of men and women in service have yet to be returned to the homes. And, unfortunately there will be others whose destination will be a hospital or rehabilitation center. Because Union Pacific is a transcontinental railroad, uniting the East with the West Coast, a large share of this job will fall on our shoulders.

You want these men and women to be returned home with utmost speed—and so do we—but at best it will take months and the use of a large part of our passenger equipment.

For this reason we ask the civilian public not to expect an immediate betterment in the transportation situation. For the railroads, as for industry generally, there must be a period of reconversion.

So we say—please be patient. Normal peacetime operation will be resumed as quickly as possible and, as in the past, the progressive Union Pacific will provide unexcelled facilities and service.

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General Passenger Traffic Manager
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