



NEW ROTARY OFFICERS . . . Elected officers of Torrance Rotary club for the coming year are: Robert T. McCallum, right, advanced from secretary to president, and George L. Johnson, left, named secretary. They will take office July 1. William H. Stenger is presently filling the presidency, having been elected vice president at the retirement of Tom Adams, who has left Torrance.

HOPE FOR VOTE ON SCHOOL ISSUE IN JUNE SEEN AS CHARTER WRITING STARTS

Work is progressing on the drafting of a city charter to change Torrance from a sixth class city to a chartered city and thus assume control of its schools, and it should be ready for presentation to the voters probably at the June 4 primary election.

This was revealed yesterday by Mrs. Evelyn Carr, chairman of the Torrance Parents Association, who asked that the City Council write a charter embodying the city government set-up as it is as a sixth class city with the exception that the people would have control of its own schools. Torrance schools now are in the Los Angeles city school system and are paying twice the amount for operation of the schools that it costs, Mrs. Carr said.

The City Council referred the T. P. A. request for writing of a charter to City Attorney J. E. McCall, and Mrs. Carr said that she had conferred with McCall, learning that the writing of the charter is under way.

Members of the City Council have expressed the hope that the charter can be completed in time for placing it on the June ballot.

Under the provisions of the proposed charter, the class of the city would be changed, control of the schools assumed, and at a later date such changes as are necessary in the city government to keep pace with its growth will be made.

This method of providing the original charter will provide a clear-cut decision on the school question.

"There is little or no opposition in Torrance to taking over the schools from Los Angeles," Mrs. Carr said. "All we need is a chance to express ourselves in favor of the issue."

"Of course, there is opposition in Los Angeles, and we expect that since they are collecting from and on behalf of Torrance almost \$2 for every \$1 that is spent in Torrance on schools."

"If we can put this issue on the ballot and take control of our schools, we can cut the tax rate almost in half and build the finest school district in California."

"We owe it to our children and ourselves to do this, and our fondest hopes soon are to be realized."

Condition Of Beach At Redondo Draws Complaint

The City Council of Redondo Beach presented a resolution to the Board of Supervisors for consideration at its Tuesday meeting calling attention to the fact that the banks adjacent to the property known as South Beach, which is under jurisdiction of the county, are being destroyed as a result of erosion, and urging the board to take steps to protect these banks by planting them with ice plants and century plants, and to construct steps for the use of the public at Topas street leading to the beach.

On motion of Supervisor Raymond V. Darby, the matter was referred to the Department of Parks and Recreation for study and report back to the board.

Ask the Professor

(By H. F. Noels)

Dear Professor: Exactly who is the Great Divide?
Answer: Reno.

Grandstand At Park To Be Reconditioned

The ancient grandstand at Torrance ball park will be repaired for the coming summer season, as a result of action by the City Council Tuesday night.

Appropriated was the sum of \$700 to buy materials to make the grandstand and bleachers safe for occupancy of the crowds who will witness baseball games, the annual Torrance rodeo and other events.

Skid-puncturing splinters from rough wood will be removed; spaces beneath the seats will be screened to prevent accumulation of combustible material under the stands; protective screen will be repaired and other improvements added, it was said.

The program is being worked out by Dale Biley, recreation superintendent.

The council expects to propose a new grandstand in the bond issue election which will be held this summer.

YMCA Drive Brings 430 New Members

Friday, March 1st, at 8:30 p.m., in St. Andrew's Parish House, the citizens of Torrance and Lomita YMCA attended a Victory dinner. Victory was announced by Ted Meier, executive secretary. The 400 membership goal was more than achieved. The final membership enrollment totaled 430.

With the membership goal reached, the local "Y" board will now petition the Los Angeles Metropolitan YMCA for the establishment of an independent branch of the "Y" in Torrance. At present the Torrance "Y" is under the San Pedro "Y" branch. In the absence of Gil Derouin, chairman of the "Y" board, the Rev. Paul Moore Wheeler, vice chairman, presided at the Victory dinner. The dinner was served by the members of St. Andrew's Senior choir.

High point of the evening was the reports of the team captains, representing 55 workers, who secured the members. The captains reporting were Von Beegen, 73 members; Chief of Police, John Stroth, 42 members; Burdette Brimley, 43 members; Bill Stanley for the "H-Y" Club, 38 members; Rev. Ronald Menning, 27 members; Rev. Mr. Wheeler, 26 members; Al Jackson, 32 members; Don Hyde, 47 members; and a special team of Gil Derouin and W. E. Bowen, 45 members.

El Sociolofy of the San Pedro YMCA spoke to the guests assembled. Ted Meier gave his report of his first year's work in Torrance as the "Y" secretary.

YMCA Fund Climbs As Contest For 'Miss Torrance Of 1946' Nears End

Only one week to see who will be "Miss Torrance of 1946." Get out Saturday and vote for your favorite girl. There will be tables posted around town Saturday for anyone who wishes to buy votes for the favorite girl. Don't forget, these donations go to the Y. W. C. A. fund.

The fund totalled \$1,492.50 as of Tuesday.

The contestants are really working with only five more days in which to have their votes in.

The contest closes Monday, March 11, at 12 midnight. The winner will be announced in the March 14 edition of the Torrance Herald.

The winners will reign as queen over the Woman's Club Carnival to be held at the Woman's Clubhouse on 1422 Engracia ave., March 16.

The standings to date are: Frances Barrington, 51,910; Doris Lee Quaglin, 22,250; Beverly Kelley, 18,532; Marge Dunham, 16,000; Virginia Tuttle, 17,637; Shirley Saffron, 11,835; Cubie Bohannon, 7,700; Beverly Holmes, 3,582.

Due to illness Miss Holmes has not been able to conduct an active campaign.

Don't forget, get out Saturday and vote for your favorite girl. Votes sell for 10 votes for 10 cents no votes less than 10 cents. Tables will be posted in conspicuous places around town. Prizes that have been announced will be on display in merchants' windows.

JULY 4TH CELEBRATION GENERAL COMMITTEE TO BE FORMED; MEETING FRIDAY

Heads of twelve organizations in Torrance are being invited to a meeting in the City Hall Friday at 4 p. m. to form the big five-day Fourth of July celebration to be held this year.

Mayor W. H. Tolson, temporary chairman of the original committee suggesting the big celebration as a "welcome home" to all veterans of World War II, said the general committee will represent various walks of life in Torrance, each with a genuine interest in the celebration.

Organizations asked to send their presidents or to appoint representatives for the meeting Friday are:

- Veterans of Foreign Wars.
- Auxiliary of Veterans of Foreign Wars.
- American Legion.
- American Legion Auxiliary.
- Rotary Club.
- Kiwanis Club.
- Lions Club.
- Moose Lodge.
- Chamber of Commerce.
- Woman's Club.
- Organized labor.
- Torrance Ministerial Union.

An executive committee already has been named to form a non-profit corporation to handle the affairs of the gigantic celebration, and this committee likewise represents a cross-section of the community.

It consists of Councilman C. Merton Gilbert, representing the City of Torrance, the recreation commission and the Torrance Annual Rodeo committee; Blaine Walker, representing the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and industrial and commercial life of the city; Harry B. Lewis, representing aviation and veterans organizations, and Frank S. Selover, managing editor of the Torrance Herald, representing the press and service clubs.

The name of the corporation will be "Torrance Area Events," and one of its first functions upon filing of the articles of incorporation will be to stage a contest to select a name for the five-day celebration, it was said.

Mayor Tolson asked that heads of the organizations invited to the general committee formation meeting Friday consider this news article their notice of invitation to attend, inasmuch as time will not permit preparation of written notices, and we have no time to lose to get this big project under way.

Planned for the celebration are a two-day rodeo; mammoth Fourth of July parade; fireworks display; two-day aerial circus; aviation exposition; industrial and commercial exposition; carnival and barbecue; sports meet; style show; midway; Fourth of July cowboy dance; reception and dinner for veterans; exposition of war trophies; special church services.

Each organization will be asked to take part in planning one or more of the affairs.

The finest acrobatic pilots will be invited to participate in the big air show, and the rodeo already is scheduled. An exhibition of latest commercial and military planes is planned, with factories participating. Industrial and commercial equipment and merchandise also will be displayed in tents in the city.

The affair is expected to attract upwards of 500,000 persons to Torrance during the five-day affair, and is planned as an annual celebration.

NEW RESIDENT

Mrs. J. L. Cooper arrived Thursday from Independence, Mo., to make her home with her mother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Kneiseler, of 1008 Amapola ave.

Plans For Development Of 188 Lots In New Subdivision Ready For Filing

Tentative plans for development of Dolley Seaside Acres, the new subdivision of the Ellinwood estate, will be filed with the City Planning Commission in the near future, according to Ben Haggott, Palms Verdes Estates realtor who is developer of the tract.

The tentative plot plan for the first unit will take in 69 acres in the westerly portion of the tract, along the Torrance-Redondo Beach city line just north of 101 highway.

Plans call for subdivision of this unit into 188 lots of 78 by 150 feet in size.

Curved streets are designed to make the most advantageous use of the topography. Improvements planned will include paved streets, water, gas, lights and other needed utilities.

The proposed development program now is in the hands

Salary Raise For Treasurer, Clerk Approved

Ordinance No. 368, providing for the adjustment of salaries and bonds of the city clerk and city treasurer, was adopted by the City Council Tuesday night.

After the ordinance becomes effective, the city clerk will be paid \$350 a month and the treasurer \$75. This is a raise of \$100 for the clerk, putting it on a par with other cities of the size and assessed valuation of Torrance. The raise for the treasurer is \$15 a month.

A. H. Bartlett has served as city clerk for five terms and is a candidate to succeed himself at the April 9 election. Mrs. Harriett Leech is treasurer, but is not a candidate for reelection.

The council also asked the Civil Service Board to prepare an examination for deputy city attorney, an appointment which Otto B. Willett now holds on a temporary and part time basis.

Salaries of water department employees were adjusted upward, in another action by the council.

Chief Stroth To Attend FBI Class In East

Chief of Police John H. Stroth was given permission by the City Council Tuesday night to attend the Federal Bureau of Investigation school in Washington, D. C.

Stroth will be gone for 14 weeks taking the course in crime detection offered by the F. B. I.

During his absence he said that Captain Frank Schumacher will act as chief of police. Stroth said that he will travel to Washington by train, leaving early in April in time to start his classes April 8.

TEN-ACRE TRACT OF LAND AT 190TH, ARLINGTON SOLD

Another large development project for Torrance is in the making as a result of the reported purchase yesterday by Andrew Nordon, Los Angeles, of 10 acres of land at 190th st. and Arlington avenue.

The land will be subdivided and developed into a residential tract, it is said. Nordon is a hardwood floor dealer.

Spirited Election Contest Facing Torrance Voters As Lines Form

Torrance voters soon are going to find themselves in the midst of a spirited election contest, between now and April 9 when they go to the polls.

Already forces are forming their lines for "all out" attacks, and here is what is to be decided:

Two members of the City Council. Candidates to go on the ballot are:

James W. (Jimmie) Barker, secretary of the Moose Lodge.

Paul Findley, Columbia Steel Co. employee.

Joel Hagberg, city truck driver.

Alvan K. Hill, former police officer and bus driver.

William J. B. Hughes, tool and die maker.

Albert L. Jackson, plant manager.

James W. O'Toole, dairyman.

J. Hugh Sherry Jr., partner of Stone & Myers.

Cecil W. Smith, manager of Thrifty Builders.

High two will be elected to replace Councilmen J. E. Hitchcock and N. H. Cucci who are not candidates.

City Clerk candidates are:

Albert H. Bartlett, incumbent for five terms.

Floyd B. Boyle, lieutenant colonel, reserve corps, U. S. A.

Carl E. Marsteller, manager of the Los Angeles ticket office of Municipal Bus Lines.

City Treasurer candidates are:

Vivian C. Callihan, school teacher.

Margaret Fordice, proprietor, Spotless Cleaners.

Tom F. McGuire, personnel manager, National Supply Co.

Bessie D. Stonecker, housewife.

COUNCIL ACTS TO REMOVE ALLEY SETBACK PROVISIONS FROM CITY LAND USE LAW

After a public hearing on proposals to remove the alley setback requirements in Ordinance No. 316, the City Council Tuesday night instructed City Attorney J. E. McCall to prepare an amendment to the ordinance for presentation at the next regular meeting nullifying the rear-yard requirements in the business district.

There was no opposition to the change. Petitions had been presented representing the owners of 200 parcels of central business district property out of a total of 325 parcels in the downtown commercial area, asking the removal of the setback requirements.

Most of the petitions favoring the removal of the rear-yard restrictions came as a result of form letters sent out by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. A return of 100 percent in favor of the set-back removal was realized, in the poll, and had it been possible to contact all of the property owners, it is believed that 100 percent would have been in sympathy with the chamber's campaign to do away with the rear-yard provisions of the land use ordinance.

In addition to the favorable replies from owners of the 200 parcels which were received, 19 parcels are owned by the city, state and federal government, Blaine Walker, secretary of the chamber, pointed out.

At present the ordinance requires that commercial buildings be built back 10 feet from the alley line in some instances and 15 feet in other instances.

"With the 20-foot alleys existing in Torrance, this makes 'streets' of 40 and 60 feet in width at the rear of local business buildings, except that many structures had been built to the alley line prior to adoption of the ordinance in the early forties, thus causing a zig-zag appearance.

The City Planning Commission had agreed to reduce the rear-yard requirements to five feet, but the City Council went all the way with the Chamber of Commerce, merchants and property owners who want no rear yard at all.

With the adoption of the ordinance, it is expected that several hundred thousand dollars will be spent in extending stores to the alley line.

Removal of the rear-yard requirements will mean that stores will be able to add from 300 to 450 square feet of ground floor space to present areas.

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Local Motor Rider Injured In Accident

Roy V. Sivard, 1845 W. 218th st., was taken to a Long Beach hospital following a head-on crash with an auto driven by D. M. Hunter, San Pedro, early Tuesday morning on Normandie ave. near Lomita Blvd., police reports reveal.

Sivard, who suffered fractures of both legs, shoulder dislocation, and possible internal injuries, was said to have been riding a motorcycle when the accident occurred, and was thrown to the top of an automobile by the impact.

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CCMO Wins Plea For Zone Change In IDECO Deal

Chancellor-Cantfield Midway Oil Co. Tuesday night won the City Planning Commission's approval of a change of zone of its property between Crenshaw Blvd and Oak st., south of Carson st., to permit expansion of International Derrick & Equipment Co.

The planning commission recommended to the City Council that the property be rezoned for heavy manufacturing, except for a 60-foot setback along Carson st. and Crenshaw Blvd., which will be zoned for commercial use.

Approximately seven acres of land involved in the rezoning plea is now under lease to International Derrick & Equipment Co., said to be negotiating for its purchase from CCMO.

The commission also recommended that Oak st. be closed, providing either Jefferson st. or Vine st. is opened across the Santa Fe tracks to Plaza del Arroyo.

The action of the planning commission varied from previous recommendations of the body which called for a zoning variance to permit IDECO's expansion, but no change of zone.

Placed before the City Council Tuesday night, this recommendation was withdrawn at the request of Otto B. Willett, attorney for IDECO in the case, and the alternate proposition was submitted and approved.

Torrance Weather Record

Official U. S. Weather Bureau

Date	TEMPERATURE			Set
	Max.	Min.	Mean	
Feb. 27	62	42	52	81
28	61	41	51	80
Mar. 1	63	43	53	82
2	64	44	54	83
3	65	45	55	84
4	66	46	56	85
5	64	40	52	80