

PETITIONS IN CIRCULATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF FIRST TORRANCE EDUCATION BOARD

Nominating petitions were in circulation yesterday for five members of the first Torrance City Board of Education to be elected on March 18 to take over the four elementary schools of Torrance as of the first Monday in July.

Friends were circulating petitions for Howard A. Wood, M. D., James L. Lynch, Mrs. Grace W. Wright, Mrs. Evelyn Carr and Carl D. Steele. They were active in the formation and adoption of the City Charter, adopted Aug. 20, by which Torrance became an independent school district. Torrance had been part of Los Angeles city school district since its founding.

The first Board of Education election is being conducted under the provisions of the Election Code, upon the advice of City Attorney Otto B. Willett from the office of the County Counsel and County Superintendent of Schools. Future elections, however, will be conducted under the provisions of the Education Code.

This means that petitions will be filed as of Thursday, 40 days before the election. The voters of Torrance on Jan. 24 having endorsed Redondo Union High School district for secondary education of Torrance children next year and El Camino college district for junior college membership, the members of the Board of Trustees of Redondo Union High School district together with Superintendent W. E. Cobb will meet with the members of the Charter Committee who are candidates for the Board of Education today.

The session has been arranged by Dr. C. C. Carpenter, assistant County Superintendent of Schools, and included in the meeting will be representatives of the County Counsel's office, City Attorney Willett and representatives of the El Camino college. The meeting will be held in the County Superintendent's office, and it will be preliminary to discussions with the Los Angeles City Board of Education regarding the handling of the children, equipment and supplies now in the buildings of the elementary schools and other matters.

The Redondo Union High board will meet separately with the Los Angeles board on handling of high school matters. Representative King that the War Assets Administration had informally granted to Torrance all of the airport, Mayor J. Hugh Sherley Jr. on Tuesday addressed a letter to the Engineers division office in Los Angeles asking immediate entry.

Sherley said that Representative King had advised him that there was no point in waiting until March 19 to secure entry to the port, and had asked that the city request that its rights be honored at once.

Representative King had been working in behalf of Torrance for months, and the city already had secured a perpetual permit to the 89 acres comprising the flight strip (concrete runway and adjacent land) from the Public Roads Administration.

Efforts of King to insure Torrance municipal occupancy of the whole port have been blocked by varied interests, it was reported, the latest being a purported Engineers' lease of five years to the Third group of the



RED CROSS DRIVE . . . Dean Sears, manager of the Torrance branch of the Bank of America, funds chairman of the 1947 American Red Cross campaign here, is now framing his teams for the forthcoming drive.

Immediate Entry To Airport Is Demand Of City

In view of the demand of Rep. Ceel R. King for settlement of all controversy over occupancy of Lomita Flight Strip in favor of the City of Torrance as a municipal airport, on face Congressional investigation, it was reported yesterday that steps have been taken by the U.S. Engineers to grant entry to Torrance to all of the 480-acre Army developed airport on March 19.

However, on advice from Representative King that the War Assets Administration had informally granted to Torrance all of the airport, Mayor J. Hugh Sherley Jr. on Tuesday addressed a letter to the Engineers division office in Los Angeles asking immediate entry.

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TORRANCE VOTERS FAVOR JOINING REDONDO UNION AND EL CAMINO 10 TO 1

By a decisive vote of more than 10 to one, the people of Torrance acted to completely sever their relations with the Los Angeles Board of Education by joining the Redondo Union High School district and El Camino College district starting July 1, 1947.

While the total vote cast was only 20 percent of those eligible to vote, the percentage in favor of Redondo Union district was so great that it left no possible room for doubt as to the desire of the people of Torrance in regard to their school affairs.

The result of the vote in the two precincts provided by the office of the County Superintendent of Schools was:

Precinct	For	For.
	L. A. Red.	El Camino
Torrance High School	54	593
Perry school	7	49
Total	61	642

At the time of the election on the question of adoption of a City Charter on Aug. 20, 1946, the voters of Torrance, by a majority, this automatically provided for formation of the Torrance City School district to handle elementary school affairs.

The Education code provides that a newly formed school district must affiliate with an adjoining high school district for secondary education and that required the election of Friday, next summer the voters will be asked to form Torrance Unified School district to assume control of the high school here and operate all schools from kindergarten through high school.

The vote Friday Jan. 24 also places Torrance in El Camino college district, probably to be located at Alondra park, North Torrance.

Redondo Union High School District Board of Trustees will take over control of Torrance high school on July 1, 1947, and will conduct classes there until Torrance Unified School district is formed.

Torrance City School district will take over Torrance elementary school, Fern avenue school, Walteria school and Perry school on July 1, 1947.

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Retail Merchants Group Plans Organization Rules, Program

Important steps in the organization of the newly created Retail Merchants division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce were taken yesterday by fifteen retailers who met at the Chamber offices.

The next meeting of the retail group is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 4, at which time an effort will be made to secure a larger attendance in order that as many as possible of the potential members may have a voice in perfecting the organization and planning the year's program, it was announced by Irving Wieder, Allen Jewelers, who is acting as temporary chairman.

Other temporary officers are: Paul Diamond, Gay Shop, recording secretary, and Bernard Lee, Bernard's Family Shoe store, treasurer.

George R. Noonan, manager J. C. Penney Company, as chairman of the by-laws committee, held an open discussion of important phases of the organization. The proposed by-laws, which will be submitted to the entire membership next week, provide for the election annually of a board of seven directors, which in turn will choose its own president, vice-president and treasurer from among its members.

The executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce will serve as secretary of the retail group. All bills and other obligations of the organization must be approved by this governing board before being contracted and paid.

The proposed by-laws also call for the election of five committee chairmen, who will meet with the board but will not have a vote on the board unless they also are duly elected directors. These five chairmen will head the following committees: membership, dues and finances,

publicity, plans and promotions, and labor relations.

An annual budget will be prepared and adopted to cover the activities of the organization, and assessments will be levied in some equitable manner, which assessment may be paid annually, semi-annually or quarterly at the option of the individual members.

In addition to those named above, the following businessmen attended the meeting yesterday: Sam Levy, Levy's Department Store; Mrs. Juanita Mann, manager, Benson's; Charles V. Jones, Torrance Hardware; Grover C. Whyte, Torrance Herald; Greta B. Woods, Tiny Tyke & Teen Shop; Henry Koflik, Renee's Sport Shop; Henry Oster, Universal Furniture Co.; Kenneth R. Ruffell, Kelly's Book Store; J. A. Evans, Evans' Gift & Stationery; Bayard T. Whitney, Whitney Furniture Co. and Harry E. Greenwood, Torrance General Insurance Agency. Other members who have already paid the initiation fee include: Harry M. Abramson, National Home Appliance Co.; George-Kale, Gary's Jewelers; Jack Schlanger, Torrance Men's Shop, and Carney Emmet, El Prado Furniture Co.

The next meeting of the group is scheduled for 10 a.m. Feb. 4, at the Chamber of Commerce offices, which all business organizations which are licensed by the City of Torrance are urged to attend, it was announced by Chairman Wieder.

Plomert Wins Promotion With G. P. Department

R. I. Plomert Jr., well known in Torrance as a member of General Petroleum Corporation's



R. I. PLOMERT JR. Promoted by General Petroleum Co.

tax department, has been promoted to the position of manager of the property tax department at the company's home office in Los Angeles, it was announced today.

Plomert has been with General Petroleum since 1924.

Active in Torrance affairs, Plomert is a director of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and long has been identified with many progressive measures in the city.

He has been in close contact with city officials over the years, regarding their tax problems, and his advice sought by various agencies in regard to assessment and tax matters.

Succeeding him will be Miss Helen Jewett Rogers, who has been serving as girls vice principal at Gage avenue junior high school at Huntington Park.

Also retiring are Miss Jarle Fohl, Miss Clara Shearer, Miss Marguerite Jones and Mrs. Winifred Watson.

It has been announced that the Los Angeles schools are taking steps to fill vacancies in other schools of the vast L. A. system with its permanent teachers and will staff the Torrance high school and elemen-

ary schools which will be removed from Los Angeles jurisdiction July 1, 1947, with substitute teachers who have not yet obtained permanent status with the Los Angeles system.

Principal Casey, who assumed principalship of Torrance High when he returned from the service two years ago, will succeed to the position held by Alfred Benshalm, retiring. Belmont is a major, three-year senior high school of 1800 students and 95 teachers.

Casey has been a member of Rotary club here and is popular in the community. He said that the transfer was "not my own choice" but one which he must accept to protect his status. It is a promotion, it was pointed out, since Belmont is a

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EL CAMINO COLLEGE AT ALONDRA PARK ASSURED AS GOVERNOR SIGNS MEASURE

Legislative action to permit the County of Los Angeles to transfer to El Camino College district 75 acres of Alondra Park for use as a campus was completed yesterday with the signing by Governor Warren of Assembly Bill No. 62.

Introduced by Assemblyman Glenn Anderson, the bill saw quick passage in the Assembly and when sent to the Senate, State Senator Jack B. Tenney engineered the measure through that house.

Governor Warren's signing of the measure was urged by civic and education groups from throughout the entire area, embraced by El Camino College district, with the exception of G. A. de la Valle Chamber of Commerce whose directors opposed the measure.

The matter now goes before the Board of Supervisors for actual transfer of the land, but it is assumed that it will take but formal action as the board already is versed on the advantages of the Alondra Park college at Alondra park.

Not only will it remove a portion of the "blight" which is "Alondra park," but it will have a tremendously favorable effect on surrounding property values and provide classes of higher education for thousands of veterans and high school graduates from the entire area. There is no other junior college to serve the area, the closest being Compton college, nearly 10 miles distant.

Torrance became a part of El Camino College district by virtue of joining Redondo Union high school district on Jan. 24, and not only did Torrance civic and education leaders, including the City Council by resolution Tuesday night, support the bill to transfer part of Alondra park to the College district, but similar action came from Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, El Segundo, Inglewood, Hawthorne, Lawndale, Lennox and Gardena.

The groups will lend full support to Supervisor Raymond V. Darby at the meeting of the Board of Supervisors to grant actual transfer of the land. Immediate action has been necessitated by the fact that federal housing facilities are available to El Camino college if accepted at once.

Classes now are being held in Redondo Union high school, El Segundo high school and Inglewood high school.

When the campus is fully developed, at Alondra park, it will be one of the finest in the entire Southwest, since the assessed valuation of the area is \$180,000,000, making it the wealthiest in California.

Many groups already are urging that all of Alondra park be set aside for the college, since funds for recreational purposes at the area have not been forthcoming during the 20 or so

years since the area was first developed. (Continued on Page 8-A)

Last Winter Class Of Torrance High Under L.A. Graduates Tonight

Commencement exercises for the last winter class of Torrance high school under the Los Angeles school district, the class of winter '47 will be held in the Torrance high school assembly hall this evening at 8 o'clock.

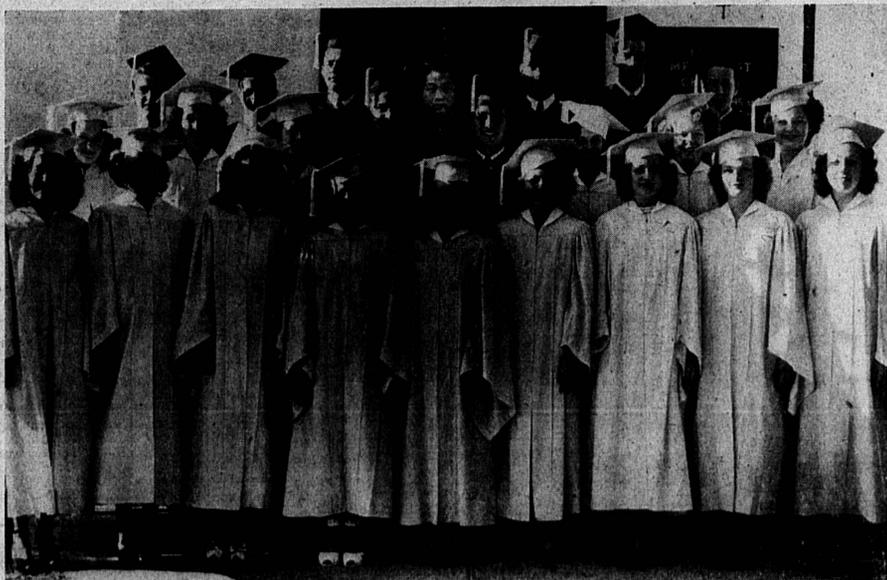
The class will enter to the music of Kipling's Recessional. The double quartet of the class chosen to sing are Ralph George, Harriet Graves, Pauline Letz, Jean Lovelady, Shirley Peterson, Berland Rauk, Dorothy Sanders and Mary Schulz.

The invocation will be offered by Rev. C. Miles Northrup, after which the mixed choir of the high school, under the direction of Miss Clara Storrs, vocal teacher at the school, will render "Service," by Charles Wakefield Cadman.

For its graduation program the class has chosen "Life is Like a Book," in which Leroy Schwenk will serve as discussion leader. "Our First Books" will be presented by Mary Schulz, "Books in Recreation" by Burna Morris "Religion in Books" by Rose Marie Pickett, and "Science and Industry" by Shirley Peterson.

Shirley Antis will offer the tribute to the members of the class in the service of the country.

Barbara Nieves, Harriet Graves, Olwyn Richards, Dorothy Sanders, Pauline Snow and Burna Morris. Second row: Mary Schulz, Rose Marie Pickett, Betty Kasten, LeRoy Schwenk, Ralph George, Shirley Antis, Jean Lovelady and Pauline Letz. Top row: Dick Malin, Bernard Smith, Jim Meyers, Ed Leung, Buland Rauk, Carl Thomas and Wallace Williams. (Torrance Herald photo.)



TORRANCE GRADUATES, WINTER CLASS OF '47 . . . The 24 Torrance High School students pictured above will say adieu to their alma mater tonight when they receive diplomas at graduation ceremonies to be held in the school auditorium at 8 o'clock. They comprise the last winter class of Torrance High School under Los Angeles city school system. Pictured from left to right, front row, are Charlyn Buffalo, Shirley Peterson, Dolores Thomas,

Jumble Of House Numbers Revealed In Quick Survey Of Small Area

Typical examples of the jumbled house-numbering system in Torrance were brought to light by a Torrance Herald reporter who checked this week to go out and see what City Engineer G. M. Jain is talking about in asking for a complete survey and adoption of a uniform numbering system for Torrance.

Selecting the area from 190th st. to Redondo Beach Blvd., Crenshaw Blvd. to Western avenue, this is what the reporter found:

Turning onto 190th st., from Crenshaw Blvd., he first found houses numbered in the 1800s, and then dropped again to the 1700s before reaching Western ave.

Traveling along 182nd st. from Western avenue toward Crenshaw Blvd., he spotted house numbers running in this order: 1800, 1700, 1900, 2000, 2100, 2600, 2700, then a drop again to 2200 followed by a quick jump to 2800—all within a one-mile area.

Along 174th st., traveling east from Crenshaw, the numbers made quick drops from 2500 to 2000, then 1900s and 1800s. Westerly along 166th, the numbers started with 1800s then jumped to the 2000s, 2300s and hiked then to the 3000s.

Crenshaw Blvd. at 182nd st. is approximately the 2800 block, according to the way houses are numbered; at 166th st. it is the 3000 block; at Redondo Beach Blvd. you can take your choice of considering it the 3700 block or the 4200 block, while some stores along the same block of Redondo Beach Blvd. are numbered as low as 4000 and as high as 4400.

In downtown Torrance, Crenshaw Blvd., which runs exactly north and south, is the 2500 block along Torrance Blvd.

These are typical examples of conditions throughout the outlying district of the city, it was pointed out.

New Policy Is Adopted On Zone Variance Cases

Torrance City Council Tuesday night informally adopted a new policy with respect to rulings of the City Planning Commission on zoning variance petitions.

Where the Council formerly "concurred" in findings of the Commission, in practically all cases, the cases will not be given formal Council action in the future unless on an appeal from the Commission's rulings. They simply will be read and filed as "matters of record," since concurrence is not required in zoning variance matters.

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