

Torrance School Board Informs Taxpayers Of School Needs

"The Open Door," a frank report to the people from the Torrance City School District, made its appearance this week under the pen of J. Heinrich Hull, superintendent of Torrance schools. The report, concerning the first several months of Torrance district's operation and telling of the problems of the next few months, will be distributed to all voters in the city in the next few weeks and will be available to others on request.

In introducing the new report of facts, problems, policy and information of the new Torrance City School district, Superintendent Hull said:

"Torrance citizens, for the first time since the founding of this community, assume control of their own school. This is a healthy thing for both the students and community.

"With control comes RESPONSIBILITY and OBLIGATION, which it is felt that Torrance citizens will gladly accept.

"There are two contending forces constantly playing upon the schools. One demands economy, reduced expenditures, and curtailment; the other demands

expansion, increased expenditures and extended services. The Board of Education in any particular community stands in between these contending forces. It must account to the taxpayer for every dollar of revenue for support of the schools; it must account to parents for the adequacy of the educational opportunities provided for children; it must account to employees for standards of wages and conditions of employment; and it must account to society (the state) for a program of public education that will enable it to establish and maintain a social order in which both freedom and prosperity are the attainable rights of all socially competent individuals.

"Being 'in the middle,' so to speak as it necessarily is, a board of Education in arriving at its policies and determining its budget, cannot be unduly swayed by the arguments of either group. These contending groups are not always sharply divided and their respective positions are not necessarily irreconcilable, for some members of the community often identify themselves with both groups. All tax reductionists do not favor the crippling or impairment of the schools. All advocates of an adequate program of free, universal public education would not favor a crippling tax burden. There is a common middle ground objective which a board of education can pursue with the approval of a majority of fair-minded voters. It is upon this ground that your Torrance Board of Education is attempting to base its policies.

"The fact that they cannot do everything that all the members of contending groups want is perhaps the reason that occasionally board members the nation over hear criticisms, but rarely if ever do they hear approval of their policies and decisions. Unremitting silence and personal satisfaction in the knowledge that they have done their best are usually their only rewards for a job well done.

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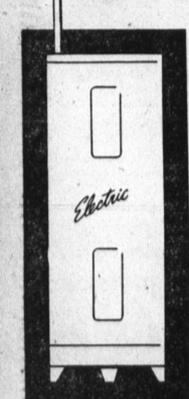
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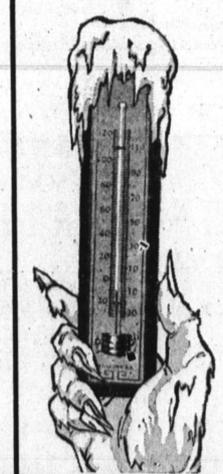
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