

Educational Advisory Group Meeting Today

The regular monthly meeting of the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee will be held today at noon in Daniels cafe.

It is expected that the group will decide on the question of chairmanship. Superintendent of Schools J. Heinrich Hull has been acting as chairman-moderator of the group.

The suggestion has been made that no permanent chairman be elected, but that moderators continue to lead the monthly discussions of educational problems.

The Educational Advisory Committee is made up of representatives of some 20 organizations in Torrance.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

Total casualties in the Spanish-American War were only 42 men.

Metropolitan Water Slashes Tax Rate 13 Cents; Saves City \$39,231

Metropolitan Water District has fixed a tax rate for this year of 35 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. In Torrance, which is a member of the district, this means a saving to Torrance taxpayers of \$39,231, since each cent of tax levy produces \$3,017.77 based on the net assessed valuation after statutory discounts are made for delinquent taxes. This discount is 10 percent for schools and five percent for municipalities.

The new tax rate of Metropolitan is 27 percent lower than the 48-cent rate of 1946-47. It was fixed Friday by the District Board of Directors on the recommendation of Controller James M. Luney and the board's finance committee.

The rate applies to 15 cities and areas, including Torrance. Of the 35-cent rate, Controller Luney stated, 29 cents will be used to meet interest and principal payments on the \$190,000,000 in bonds that were sold to construct the 410-mile-long Metropolitan aqueduct which delivers water from the Colorado river to Los Angeles and fourteen other Southern California cities and areas. Six cents of

the rate will be used to meet government and other debt charges and operation and maintenance costs on the giant water delivery system, he pointed out.

The marked reduction in the Metropolitan Water District tax rate, Luney explained, was made possible by three causes. They are (1) an increase in the assessed valuation of secured and unsecured property in the District cities as set up this year by the county assessors, (2) the annexation last November of the San Diego County Water Authority which added \$266,000,000 to the assessed valuation of District areas, (3) a marked increase in the sale of softened Colorado river water to the cities within the Metropolitan Water District.

Southern California cities and areas to be benefited by the District's tax rate cut are those which are now within the boundaries of the District. They are Los Angeles, Anaheim, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Compton, Coastal Municipal Water District, Fullerton, Glendale, Long Beach, Pasadena, Santa Ana, San Marino, Santa Monica, Torrance and the San Diego County Water Authority. The latter includes the cities of San Diego, National City, Chula Vista, Oceanside, the La Mesa, Lemon Grove and Spring Valley Irrigation District, the Lakeside Irrigation District, and the Fallbrook Public Utility District.

It was pointed out by Chairman Rosetti of the District's Board of Directors that even the reduced 35-cent tax rate need not be paid by the taxpayers of the various cities if these cities elect to pay their share of the assessment out of their own water revenues. Glendale and Pasadena, for example, he stated, meet their assessments from earnings of their municipal water systems. Burbank officials have indicated that starting this year that city will pay all of its assessments from earnings of its city water system. Compton for a number of years has been paying half of its assessment from taxes and half from water revenues.

Incinerator At Harbor To Start In May

Wilmington got a promise out of Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles that the harbor district incinerator will be constructed next year, with work starting in May, when 14 demands for municipal improvements in Wilmington were presented to the Los Angeles chief executive.

Wilmington was following up San Pedro's 12-point program which was the basis of Assemblyman Vincent Thomas' recent drive to make it possible for San Pedro, Wilmington and other sections of Los Angeles to withdraw from the big city.

Funds for the \$350,000 incinerator, the site for which was purchased by the city a few years ago near Gaffey st. and Wilmington-San Pedro rd., will come from a portion of \$14,000,000 in bonds scheduled to be sold in September, the mayor disclosed. The announcement was a direct answer to one of the group's demand for removal of dumps on W. Anaheim st. and Vermont avenue.

Torrance two years ago blocked a move to move the dumps to an abandoned quarry back of Waltheria.

The mayor agreed with the delegation that the drawbridge over the West Basin should be taken out and that a drainage system be constructed for Bixby slough, but added that financing of the two projects is the obstacle blocking the improvements.

A request for an additional ambulance was answered by the chief executive, who said plans are under way to provide the equipment and service by city contract with a Wilmington mortuary.

Charges that the city is spending only a portion of tax monies collected in Wilmington for public works there brought a statement by the mayor that Wilmington is getting its proper share of tax revenues.

"San Pedro has found out that it is getting more than the taxes it pays in, and I believe the same situation will be found to prevail in Wilmington," the mayor declared.

The delegation, headed by Earl B. Smith, was told that the 14-point demand would be referred to various city departments for study and recommendation before the mayor makes a formal reply to it.

With Smith were Troy E. McDermott, Robert Peek and Earl Anderson.

Slight Building Lag Noted During Week In Torrance

Building permit issuance reached a low ebb this week according to information received from the City Building department. Total valuation of permits issued this week was \$20,390 as compared to nearly \$200,000 last week.

Permits taken out were as follows:

Junior B. Roberts, 1320 Rolling Knolls, residence and garage at 2604 Eldorado ave., \$5,800.

Carlyle A. Peek, 1502 Cota ave., rumpus room, \$5,500.

Joe B. Miles, 1415 Amapola ave., addition to residence, \$400.

Sam C. Estes, 1830 Cabrillo ave., addition to residence, \$1,950.

Joseph H. Venable Jr., 2024 Gramercy ave., addition to residence, \$900.

F. R. Forrer, 24220 Las Colona garage, \$850.

C. T. Berry and S. G. Koch, Bellflower, demolish masonry of building at 1510 Cabrillo ave., \$500.

Torrance City School District, moving two bungalows to 17831 Prairie ave., \$7,000.

Rigid Airport Operation Regulations Involving Torrance To Be Discussed

Since Torrance is one of the few Southern California cities which has two airports operating within its city limits, it is expected that Torrance officials will have more than just a passing interest in the problem of enforcing the state air navigation act, subject to a meeting called for Sept. 8.

One of the flying fields is Torrance Municipal airport, on 101 highway and Crenshaw blvd., and the other is Torrance Community airport, privately operated at Prairie ave. and Redondo Beach blvd.

Captain Sewell Griggers, of the Sheriff's aero-squadron, announced plans for a meeting of police chiefs, city attorneys and other law enforcement officials to be held Sept. 8 to decide on uniform county legislation to curb low and reckless flying and other violations of the state air navigation laws.

Expected to attend the meeting are the following: J. S. Marriott, head of the local office of the Civil Aeronautics Administration; Chief of Police C. B. Horrall, Los Angeles; Sheriff Eugene Bisealuz; J. M. McClelland, chief of police, Santa Monica; E. H. Adams, chief of police, Burbank; T. J. Potter, chief of police, Compton; Verne Rasmussen, chief of police, Glendale; A. R. Slight, chief of police, Long Beach; J. H. Stroh, chief of police, Torrance; and M. R. Baumgartner, chief of police, Hawthorne.

Others who will attend include District Attorney William Simpson, County Counsel H. W. Kennedy and members of the County Board of Supervisors.

Provisions of a resolution proposed by Supervisor Leonard J. Roach relative to uniform operation of private airfields and private flying will be discussed. The resolution, unanimously adopted by the Board of Supervisors would eliminate low flying by a county ordinance containing the following provisions:

1.—Require airport operators to maintain a register or log which would list the time of landing and departure of all aircraft.

2.—Require the pilot to enter in the register his name, address, description of the plane, type, and pilot's license number as well as license number assigned to the aircraft by the C. A. A.

3.—Make it illegal for an airport owner to knowingly permit a plane to take off when piloted by any person other than the owner unless the airport operator has a written consent from such owner.

4.—Provide that such offense would constitute a misdemeanor which would be prosecuted by the District Attorney.

It is expected that in view of the additional work which such an ordinance would throw on airport managers and operators, as well as police, the City Council may be asked to reactivate its Aviation Commission to have a hand in such matters.

Most members of the commission appointed a year ago have resigned. Reed H. Parkin was chairman and he quit his post when the city showed reluctance to accept from the War department a right-of-entry to Lomita flight strip some weeks. Parkin and commission members had worked hard and long to get the airport, and now the city has a deed to the property and is operating it as Torrance Municipal airport.

Three Local Men Named For New Rent Boards

Torrance and Lomita are represented by three memberships on two Rent Control Advisory boards, as recommended by the Board of Supervisors to Governor Warren. The names submitted are approved by the governor and sent to Washington, D. C., for confirmation and the persons so appointed charged with enforcement of the rent control of the government.

On Board No. 15, Torrance is represented by B. C. Buxton, president of the Torrance-Lomita Realty Board and prominent local realtor and property owner, and Jack Kelly, 1632 W. 220th st. Others on Board No. 15 are Pat Hanna, 2214 W. Compton blvd., Gardena, Earle E. Parkhurst, 1544 Paseo del Mar, Palos Verdes and Andrew Getty, 912 Monterey blvd., Hermosa Beach.

On Board No. 14 is H. B. DeLong, 2337 1/2 Pacific Coast highway, Lomita, as well as Francis Bassler, Compton, Dr. C. L. Dummit, 208 S. Burris st., Compton; Harry Carr, 558 W. 5th st., San Pedro and L. C. Seelinger, 523 W. Anaheim st., Wilmington.

The other 13 boards are spread throughout the County of Los Angeles and each appointment must be approved by the governor before being forwarded to Washington.

Each board will set up an office with a paid secretary to hear cases involving enforcement of the rent control law recently adopted by Congress.

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