

Quest for Cool Pool Draws Hot Council Comment

A swimming pool for Torrance—long tagged a political football, received a sound "kicking around" at the City Council meeting Tuesday night.

Councilman Bob L. Haggard really started the ball rolling when he advocated that the city fathers allocate \$30,000 from the Public Improvement Fund in this year's budget for the start of a "Swimming Pool Fund."

When queried after the meeting if he thought the matter would again be huddled over by the city dads, Councilman Haggard answered:

"No I don't believe so. I don't think that the balance of the council is in favor of a pool for the city at this time."

The plan met with some opposition both from members of the council and from some members of the large audience which packed the council chambers. Councilman Nick Drae handed the proponents of the swimming pool plan a staggering blow when he pointed out that the city was in "desperate need of an incinerator. He urged the council to allocate some

of the "windfall" money for the construction of an incinerator.

Several members of the audience were ready to resign themselves to the fact that once again the much-discussed swimming pool was slipping through their fingers when Councilman Haggard pointed out that \$15,000 had been allocated in this year's budget for a trash burner to handle the immediate needs of the city.

One of the audience who spoke for the swimming pool plan was Dick Miller who pointed out that the pool had been a plank in campaign platforms since 1937. He received laudits and laughter from the audience when he quipped:

"I have been waiting around for a pool since 1937. If I have to wait much longer I'll be too fat to swim."

One suggestion offered was that possibly the school children should be polled on the subject.

Another member of the audience snapped: "Pool 'em—not poll 'em."

City Manager George Stevens gave the backers of the pool plan some serious food for thought in revealing some facts regarding the cost of a swimming pool.

"Culver City is about ready to dedicate their new pool," Stevens said. "Their pool cost \$150,000 and is not enclosed. South Gate recently built a pool which cost \$99,000 and a bathhouse with it that cost an additional \$136,000."

Personally, the City Manager would like to see a pool in the city he said. One built jointly by the city and the school system and operated by the school district.

"Sooner or later anybody who lives on the West Coast is going to have to swim sometime—perhaps to save his own life or somebody else's. Certainly the teaching of swimming to our youngsters is more important than basketball or perhaps baseball. For this reason I believe that the school district should be 'counted in' on any plan for a swimming pool."

He indicated that there was a fund of \$21,000 set aside in this year's budget for recreational improvements for the city.

The recreation commission at its next meeting on August 15 is slated to discuss the uses to which this fund might be put.

Councilman George Powell, after a motion by Haggard that the \$30,000 fund be established died for the want of a second, moved that the matter be tabled until after the planning commission meeting next Monday. He urged that those who favored the swimming pool plan to meet with the commission at that time.

Among those whose written messages favoring construction of a pool were read by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett were the Torrance Lions Club, Robert S. Peckham, Albert L. Friedman, Harriet E. Curran, L. H. Coleman, Jean Walker, Selmer Langerud, Millie Meachum; Mido Products, Charles Schultz Jr. and Charlie Gots.

Those who addressed the City Council as favoring pool construction were Charlie Gots, John Hanks, Mrs. Margaret O'Toole, Dick Miller, Dr. W. I. Laughon, Tweed Jolly, Miss Dolores Jensen, Jack Baldwin, Howard J. Porey and E. A. Casey.

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Recall Accusations Labeled 'Ridiculous' by Councilmen

City Spraying Crews to Strike At Fly Nuisance

OPERATION FLYDOOM. August 9—A two-pronged spearhead was thrust by the city's "fly fighters" this week in the first real offensive move to pin down the rising fly menace.

Members of the fly abatement committee of Torrance emerged from several "powwows" with leading health authorities with the plan that a city-operated spraying apparatus would be pressed into service in the immediate future to spray the city's fly infested areas.

The group's other action resulted in organizing a "leaflet campaign" to serve as the forerunner of a fifth column against the flies. The first of these leaflets asking for the householders' help in combating the aerial invaders, will be distributed soon throughout the community by the city's Boy Scout Troops.

For the past two weeks a three-man committee composed of Jack Baldwin, chairman of F.A.C.T., City Manager George Stevens and D. W. Collett, Los Angeles County Health Officer for the City of Torrance, have witnessed a number of demonstrations aimed at knocking down the germ-carrying fly.

Last week a demonstration of spraying was witnessed by the trio and a number of other county health officers when the Gage Pump Company, 6110 North Ferguson Drive, Los Angeles sprayed Daniels Cafe, 1625 Cabrillo avenue, and the Madrid Market, 1521 Madrid avenue.

The owners of both establishments, Charles Gots and Jack Heberg, respectively, reported that the spraying had done

(Continued on Page 3)



TIME SAVER . . . Smiling Carolyn Baust saves time at the Torrance post office window as Acting Postmaster Louis H. Deininger prepares to paste a \$1.18 "stamp" on her package. New postage meter in center prints "stamp" with exact amount of postage thus saving clerk from "fiddling" with a number of stamps to add up to odd amounts.—Herald Photo.

CRASH ENDS Waiting In Mail-Line Sliced In Half By New Stamp Machine

Waiting in line to mail a parcel post package will be cut in half at the Torrance post office by the new Pitney-Bowes, Inc. mailing machine the post office has just received, according to acting Postmaster Louis H. Deininger.

Here's how it works: Post office clerk, after weighing package and computing fee, takes the money and touches levers on the electrically operated postage meter machine.

Out pops a small printed label, gummed and even automatically moistened, complete with postage of the exact total value, plus city post-mark and date of mailing. It is slapped on the package and all is done. In addition to saving time, the machine abolishes stamp-picking for parcel post packages, Deininger said.

Any value from one cent to \$10 is issued by the machine in a single "meter stamp." In a test in a large eastern post office, a line of 60 parcel-laden persons was served in exactly 10 minutes.

Metered parcels require no canceling and postmarking and can be more quickly sorted for early train dispatch.

Post office cashiers and clerks are protected by automatic and fool proof postage control and accounting. And the postage, even when imprinted, is non-egotiable.

The metered mail system, originated 28 years ago by Pitney-Bowes Company, last year, was used to collect \$303,000,000—more than one-fourth of all United States Postage revenue.

Councilmen Seek To 'Smoke-out' Recall Backers

Councilmen Bob L. Haggard and A. L. Jackson, targets of a recall initiative which flared into prominence last week, demanded yesterday that backers of the movement "step out into the open."

In a prepared statement to the press, Haggard and Jackson denied the allegations of the recallers and labeled their charges of mismanagement and dishonesty as "ridiculous."

At the same time, defenders of the incumbents lashed out at the Torrance Civic Betterment Committee—the group which launched the recall movement—producing petitions signed by 1000 residents who recommended that others refrain from signing recall petitions.

The "Committee of 1000" is headed by W. A. "Dick" Felker, prominent citizen and one-time member of the Torrance Planning Commission, and Mrs. R. C. Brown, active in local civic affairs.

Haggard's and Jackson's joint statement was designed to answer charges made in a seven-pronged attack made public in a legal newspaper notice filed last Thursday. The notice was signed by Bill Bowman, chairman, and Kenneth Kall, secretary.

The councilmen's statement follows:

The undersigned, A. L. Jackson and Bob L. Haggard, your elected councilmen, are sought to be recalled by a group who have identified themselves as "The Torrance Civic Betterment Group." Heading the group are William Bowman as chairman and Kenneth Kall as secretary.

The charges which these two men, and the group for which they are fronting, have set forth as a basis for recall are ridiculous.

The so-called "illegal actions" of which they claim we are guilty were concurred in by the majority of the city council.

During the past two years the City of Torrance has grown into a modern city standing on an excellent and solid financial foundation. Today, as the result of wise and judicial budgeting, the city stands firm and is able to show a carry-over balance of \$200,000.

The improved condition is due largely to the wise guidance of our City Manager George W. Stevens. Through his intelligent management numerous improvements have been made for the betterment of the entire city:

1. Additional Park Improvements.
2. Two new fire engines.
3. A new city garage.
4. Improved airport facilities.
5. A new mechanical street sweeper.
6. Some eleven miles of

(Continued on Page 3)

ECONOMY WISE . . . "Tie in your school recreational facilities with your city set up," Ferdinand Barr, State Director of Recreation for Southern California (seated) tells James Whitmer, president of the Walteria Business men's club at a meeting of

Light-up, Join-up, Sign-up Urges State Play Director

Lighting of play areas, extensive use of school facilities, and trained leadership was advocated by Ferdinand Barr, state director of recreation for Southern California at a meeting of the Walteria Business Men's Club last Thursday evening at the Smith Bros. Fish Shanty in Walteria.

Barr is currently making a study of the recreational needs of the city of Torrance and soon will present his findings to the City Council and to the Board of Education.

The recreation director graphically illustrated his point in a color-sound movie of how one typical American town solved their recreational problems.

J. A. Beasley, program chairman introduced two new members of the organization; Robert Sleeth, newly appointed Walteria postmaster, and Acting Fire Captain Neil Whitney.

James Whitmer, president, announced future plans which include a dance August 20 at the Walteria Recreation Hall and a Ladies Night September 15. Teachers at the Walteria School also will be honored.

Among the members of the official city family who attended the meeting were Councilmen George Powell, Bob Haggard, and A. L. Jackson.

Also attending were Dale Riley, city superintendent of Recreation and members of the recreation commission including Chairman Bud Lee, Dave Colville, Paul Roettger, A. J. Patronsky, and Beasley.

BALMY WEATHER AHEAD, SAYS WM

Cool, sunny afternoon after this morning's low clouds "burn off" was the good word offered by forecasters at the U.S. Weather Bureau. Temperature peak will be a couple of degrees higher than yesterday when they reached a pleasant 77, the W.M. declared.

COUNCIL OKAYS DRIVE-IN

The City Council Tuesday evening gave the go ahead signal for the construction and operation of a drive-in theater in Torrance.

Basis of the approval of the theater, which will be located on Redondo Beach boulevard, west of Arlington avenue, was a ruling on a zoning variance.

The proposed theater will be located in what otherwise is an agricultural zone.

Minnie V. Wrenden, applicant who requested the variance, stated that the proposed theater would be a massive, double-screen structure, the most modern of its type.

The council acted on a recommendation of the Planning Commission.

According to reports filed with the Torrance police, Richard Newcomer, of Palos Verdes, declared he was driving south of Palos Verdes Parkway at 2:45 a.m. Sunday when he saw the boys thumbing for a ride. He gave them a lift.

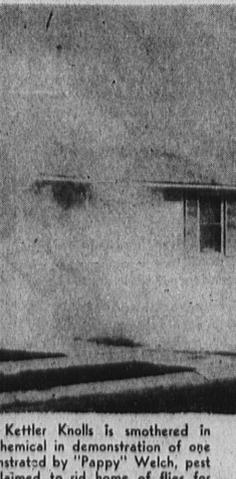
Within an estimated 20 minutes, the young bandits ordered Newcomer to "stop the car and get out." They looted his pockets and personal belongings, tied the victim with his belt and suspenders and sped away in his car.

By Monday morning the car had been found, Torrance police said.

"They seemed inexperienced in the art of hi-jacking," declared Victim Newcomer. "Their job of tying me up was poor—I was free within a few minutes."

FOOD EMPLOYERS MEET

A general meeting of all food industry employers of the harbor area was called last week by the Food Division, Harbor Area Employers' Council. The meeting will be held at the council's office, 1524 Cravens avenue, Monday, Aug. 22.



BLANKETED . . . Home in Kettler Knolls is smothered in fog of non-staining fly killing chemical in demonstration of one method of fly control as demonstrated by "Pappy" Welch, pest control authority. Method is claimed to rid home of flies for

three to six weeks. City crews will soon begin cleaning alleys in preparation for spraying infested areas in city-wide campaign to stamp out the fly nuisance.

—Herald Photo.