

# Can Not Change School Age This Year, Says County Counsel

## 1500 To March in Saturday's 'Biggest Yet' Band Parade

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### TORRANCE HERALD

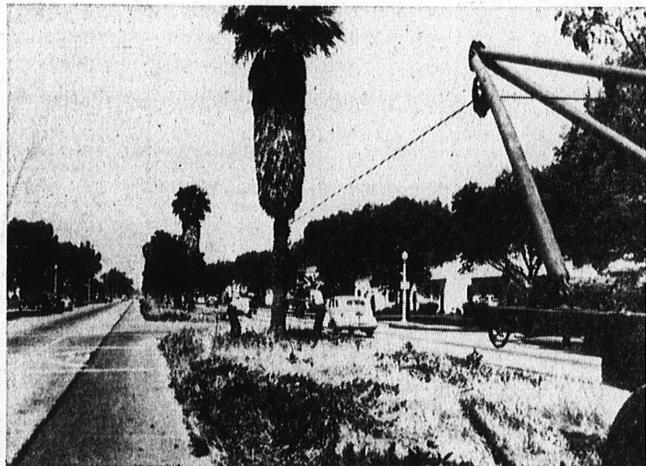


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**TIM-MMBERR** . . . Eleven palm trees and 10 Eucalyptus trees, historic landmarks in the center island on Torrance boulevard, fall before the woodman's axes to make way for progress. The island extending from Madrid avenue to west of Date avenue will be blacktopped thus eliminating the double lane highway. Dropping the trees yesterday was J. H. Kirkham.

## Dick Lane Named Parade Marshal

"Old Leather Britches" Dick Lane, widely recognized television commentator and emcee, will ride as Grand Marshal of Saturday's two-hour Torrance Area Youth Band Benefit Parade.

Lane and his cast of the KTLA television production, "The Dixie Showboat" will head the line of more than 1500 participants, according to Forrest W. Meyers, president of the youth band organization.

Included in the list of units in the parade which starts at 2 p.m. are eight bands, 12 baton corps, four non-musical marching groups, several floats, many of the Southland's top equestrians.

The parade is the annual high point in the yearly Youth Band Benefit which will climax this year on June 9 with a concert by the band. At that time

someone who has participated in the benefit drive will be given two air line tickets to Mexico City for an eight-day trip. Money derived from the 25-cent tickets to the concert will be used by the band to pur-

### Parade to Follow Line of March Past Announcers

After assembling at Plaza del Amo and Cabrillo, units in Saturday's parade will follow the line of march outlined below:

North on Cabrillo to Sartori; west on Sartori to Post; south on Post to Craven; east on Craven to Marcellina; south on Marcellina to the disbanding area at the high school.

The parade will step off at 2 p.m.

Judges in the parade will occupy the main reviewing stand at Cabrillo and Gramercy avenues.

Loudspeaker systems at the judges' stand and at Sartori and El Prado, and on the City Hall steps will carry a brief description. Announcers will be Al Shervin, Tom Hoxie and Jack Baldwin.

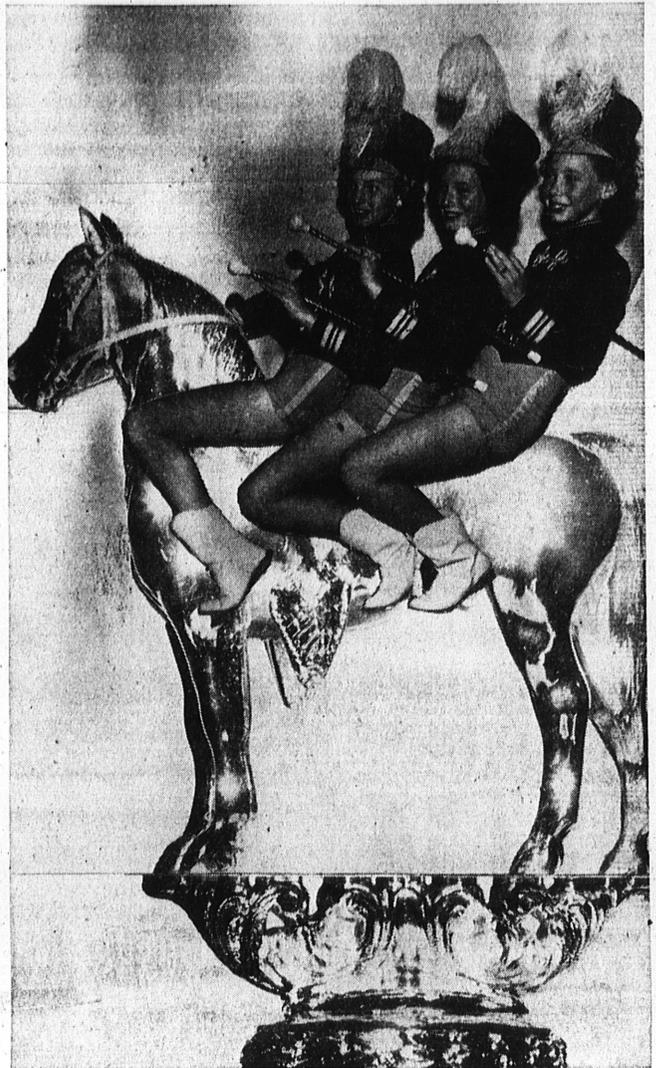


**OFFICIALLY OPENED** . . . Mayor Bob L. Haggard snips the ribbons across the doors of the new \$1,250,000 Pittsburgh Paint and Plate Glass Company factory during dedication ceremonies yesterday noon. With the mayor is A. D. Wagen, divisional director of the paint manufacturing firm. (Herald Photo).



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**AT PLANT DEDICATION** . . . A. D. Wagen, divisional director of the Pittsburgh Paint, welcomes members of the community at brief dedication ceremonies at the Crenshaw boulevard plant yesterday. Employees were dismissed to watch the ribbon-cutting ceremonies. (Herald photo).



**THREE GALS ON A GOLDEN HORSE** . . . With a little help from the photographer, three majorettes of the Torrance Area Youth Band Corps find themselves astride "Golden Girl"—actually one of the 45 trophies to be awarded to units marching in Saturday's parade. The girls, all completely uniformed, are more fortunate than many of the Torrance Area Youth Band members. The parade is part of a benefit drive to raise funds to purchase uniforms for the band. (Herald photo).

## Age Boost Nixed by Counsel

Kindergarten and first grade age requirements are back down to where they were. After deciphering wordy sections of the Education Code the County Counsel informed the Torrance Board of Education this week they could not raise the age requirements three months as the local Board had intended.

The miscue, it seems, all started in Alhambra. The school Board there was discussing the age level. It was reported they DID raise the minimum age requirements three months.

**TRIGGER HAPPY** Other school districts, long favoring such a boost, were quick to follow suit until a section of a legal eagle in the County Counsel's office.

The matter stands this way at present: Children who are four years and six months old on the first day of school on September 17, 1951 may enter kindergarten.

Those children who are five years and six months old on opening day may enter first grade.

However, all this will change next year, in 1952 that is, when by State law the age limit for kindergartners and first graders will be raised to four years and nine months, and five years and nine months respectively.

**STARTS NEXT YEAR** The law recently passed by the State legislature becomes effective 90 days after the legislature adjourns. This year the law would become effective about September 25 which is after the opening of school in the fall. Consequently the law will go into effect in September of 1952.

The local school board, however, recommends that parents of children born before December 1, 1945 withhold sending their children to school for another year. Educators have found through exhaustive research that most children are about six and a half years old before they are successful in learning to read. Less failures and repetition of grades has been observed among those children who are in the "older" age groups, educators claim.



**CHARLES VER JONES** . . . Up For Reelection

## Polls to Open Tomorrow for College Election

It is election day in Torrance tomorrow to allow the city's voters to go to the polls to fill a vacancy on the El Camino College Board of Trustees.

Sole candidate for the position is Charles Ver Jones who has been serving on the board for the past three years.

**ONE POLLING PLACE** Since the ballot is such a small one and since Jones is the only candidate appearing on the ballot with no issues involved there will be only one polling place in Torrance. Voters may vote between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. at Torrance High School.

Taverns and liquor stores will close while the polls are open. El Camino College district is divided into five "wards" with a representative of each district serving on the Board of Trustees. Although the nomination for the office must be made within (in this case) the Torrance district, all other wards within the Junior College district will vote on the candidate. Jones' name will appear on ballots in Inglewood, Hermosa Beach, Redondo Beach, El Segundo, Hawthorne and other communities comprising the El Camino College district.

Jones, owner of the Torrance Hardware Company, is a past president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and of the Retail Merchants Division of the Chamber. He is also a past president of the Torrance Rotary Club.

Curry is seeking an injunction against the Council to prevent them from stopping him from staging his fair. A petition signed with 7000 names asked the council to deny Curry's request.

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## One Man Agrees to Run And The Whole Town Goes Dry

One man will cause this town of 29,000 persons to go dry for 12 hours tomorrow, and a lot easier than Carrie Nation ever did with her little hatchet.

Through no fault of his own, one man will cause Torrance to go drier than a bone (alcoholic wise) from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

It all started when a group of citizens asked Charles Ver Jones to stand for reelection to the El Camino College Board of Trustees. No one ever came forward to oppose him.

So tomorrow Mr. Jones, much to his embarrassment, finds that all liquor stores and bars will have to close while the voters of Torrance traipse to the polls to mark an "X" on a ballot printed with only one name—his.

There are no other issues at stake. Sad, some may say, but 'tis the law!

## Theater Chain Owner Dies of Heart Attack

Many widely known political figures and business associates were among those who attended the funeral Monday for Albert Mellinkoff, 63, co-owner of a local theater chain including three show houses in Torrance.

Mellinkoff, died of a heart attack on May 11 at 4:30 in the afternoon at his home at 811 North Foothill Road in Beverly Hills. Last rites for the theater owner were conducted Monday noon by Dr. Ernest Trautner, a personal friend of the deceased for the past 25 years. Inurnment in Beth Olam Cemetery in Hollywood followed the rites conducted at Groman's Mortuary in Los Angeles.

**CAME HERE IN 1937** The movie house owner came to Torrance in 1937 when he and Harry Milstein, his partner in the M. and M. Enterprises, purchased the Torrance Theater. They built the Gardena Theater in 1939 and acquired the Grand Theater in Torrance in 1940. Six years later they constructed the Park Theater in Gardena and in 1949 Mellinkoff personally supervised the construction of the Stadium Theater—newest of the three Torrance theaters.

Before entering the theater business, Mellinkoff owned and operated a retail shoe store until 1927 on Broadway in downtown Los Angeles. He came to Los Angeles county more than 40 years ago from his native city of Boston. He was at one time employed by the old Pacific Steamship Company.

**ACTIVE POLITICALLY** Although he never entered politics as an office-seeker he took an extremely active part in state and national politics describing himself as an "Independent Democrat." He was particularly active in non-partisan issues.

Surviving are his widow, Helen, two sons, Abe, city editor of the San Francisco Chronicle; and Dr. Sherman Mellinkoff who flew here from Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore to attend the funeral; and a daughter Mrs. Ian Watt of Cambridge, England.

**Sunny Day Forecast** When the fog goes away, it will be a nice day today, the weatherman says. He predicts early morning low clouds and fog. Otherwise clear. Temperature near 74.

## Annual Hobby Show to Open Here Tomorrow

Flowers by the hundreds and hobbies of all descriptions will be on display beginning at 6 p.m. tomorrow in the Civic Auditorium as the doors are opened to the public for the Fifth Annual Art, Flower and Hobby Show.

Sponsored jointly by the Torrance Terrace Garden Club and the city Department of Recreation—with valuable assistance from the Kiwanis, Optimist, Lions and Rotary clubs, and the women's clubs of the city—the show has been brought together this year by Mrs. Lelia Broderick, general chairman of the committee.

Judging the flowers this year will be Philip Link, Mrs. Virginia Yeltema and James Drew. Mrs. Dorothy Jamieson and Donald Manshaw will judge the hobbies, and Mrs. R. R. Smith, Mrs. Robert Deining and Donald Green, art instructor at El Camino, will judge the art entries.

**ENTERTAINMENT GALORE** In addition to the attractions offered by the exhibits, other forms of entertainment have been scheduled for the three days of the show.

Friday evening the Mothersingers of Halldale School and the Four Colonels of Corn, a local barber shop quartet, will sing. Saturday Ann Olson's dancing class will perform at 4:30 and the Children's Choir of the First Lutheran Church, directed by Mrs. Paul Wenske, will sing.

Sunday afternoon Miss Mary Lou Hutchison will entertain at 2 o'clock. Miss Mickey Van Deventer at 3:30, and a young square dance team from the Williams Elementary School in Hawthorne at 4 p.m.

Entries for the show must be brought into the auditorium by (Continued on Page 6)