

# City Population Is Estimated at 41,618

Torrance's phenomenal population growth of the past decade is reflected anew in estimates which put today's figures at 41,618, although that amount may be slightly exaggerated. The estimate was made by Torrance City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, who based his figures on a national basis of 2.5 people for each registered voter. Since 16,007 registered for the general election held Nov. 4, that sum times 2.5 equals 41,617.5—obviously, so the benefit of the doubt was given the greater total.

More than one-third (16,540) of the 41 thousand are concentrated within the limits of the original boundaries of Torrance, incorporated May 21, 1921. Two annexed subsections of the city—Meadow Park and McDonald Tract (see map) contain more than half of the remainder, with 10,360 and 8665 residents, respectively.

Of the others, Walteria adds up to 638, Northwest Torrance to 638, South Torrance to 8735 and little Helbush, the smallest annexation, only six acres in the industrial section of the city, has none.

The growth of the community is further emphasized by the fact that Torrance doubled in population in the decade between 1940 and 1950 (according to U. S. Census figures), and has almost doubled again, providing this estimate of today's citizenry is accurate.

The first figures available for the city's population number are those of 1921, when an estimated 1800 souls lived here. A check of informed sources both in Tor-

rance and Los Angeles, including the U. S. Census Bureau, disclosed that no accurate records exist which show the population figures for the years previous.

When the first census was taken in the new community, a total of 7271 residents was recorded. Since that 1930 tally, the city has more than quadrupled. By 1940 only 2789 had moved in, to jump the total to 9950.

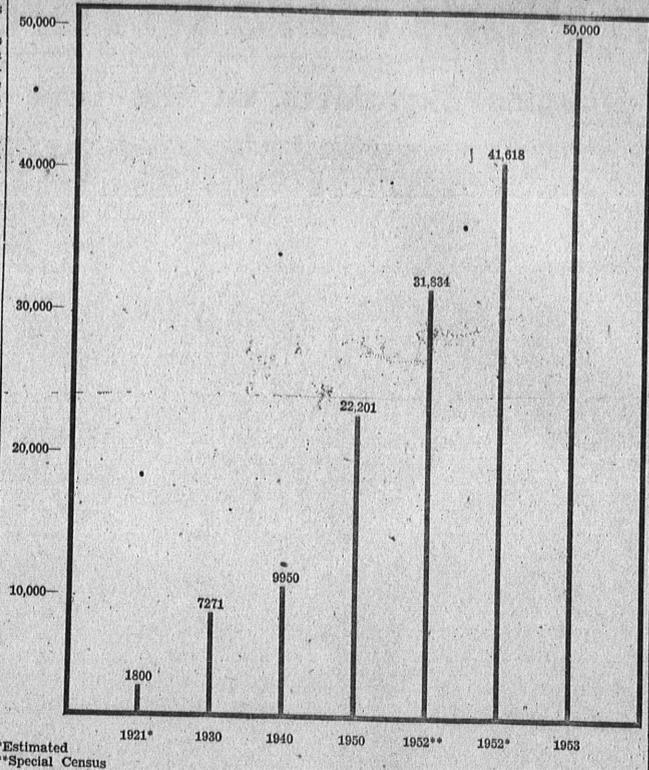
But during and after the war years, the qualities of Torrance—climate, employment, room—proved more and more attractive. Along with the rest of the Pacific Coast, the population jumped—from that bare 9950 in 1940, to 22,201 in 1950, to 31,834 in 1952 (special U. S. Federal census) to the 41,618 estimated today.

And more are coming. The city, trying to make room for them, petitioned the City of Los Angeles to allow annexation of a tract of ground near Western Ave. south of 237th St. The Los Angeles Council, however, turned the request down, but it is scheduled to come before the Los Angeles Planning Commission in the near future.

In mid-October, announcement was made of the development of 1600 new homes by the Ellinwood Corp. in the Meadow Park area. At present, some 30 subdivisions, ranging in size from five homes to Ellinwood's 1500, are building.

Torrance, a growing city, is pointing for the supreme goal—45,000 people, a prediction heard by the Board of Education in October.

# Population Nearly Doubles in Two Years



# Watch Those Aerials, Power Company Warns

Radio fans in their anxiety to get into the air frequent attach their aerials to power poles, according to R. E. Cunningham, in charge of the Edison distribution lines. This practice is extremely hazardous, Cunningham says, and may lead to serious injury and even death if the aerials are brought too close to high voltage power wires. (May 19, 1929).

# String Ties Indicate A Low Mentality Rate

Denver—Bell-bottomed trousers, sleek haircuts, low-cut vests, and string ties are evidences of weakened morality and low mentality more unfurlingly than all the tests devised by years of experimentation in psychological laboratories, according to Judge Lindsey of Denver's Juvenile Court. (May 19, 1922).

# Mrs. Groves Drove Very Quietly Away

Mrs. Gordon Groves' new Studebaker automobile was rained by a street car in Los Angeles last Saturday as she was making a turn on the streets. A yellow car was also making a turn and the back end swerved around hooking the rear bumper and lifting the automobile into the air. The electric current was in some way connected and all the fuses in the street car were burned out, the instantaneous flash blinding the train crew and passengers for a moment. Mrs. Groves drove quietly away while the street car was held up for some time awaiting repairs. (Aug. 4, 1922).

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# We've Got a Clue, Kid, It Still Worries Them

Every woman, whether she be a flyweight sylph or double-chinned enchantress, is more worried over increasing avoirdupois than any other problem that besets her days. Women travelers on the vessels of United States Lines fleet have made an amazing, and at the same time, practical discovery. They have found what they claim to be a sure method for taking off superfluous flesh. And, it might be stated, men jealous of their figures are making use of the new discovery. A canvas girdle encircling the midriff section of the seeker after slimmness is attached to an oscillating device, and when the patient is shaken in a manner that is fearfully fat-defying. (Nov. 24, 1922).

# Hospital Plans To Add New Maternity Wing

A growing city needs a growing hospital. And the directors of the Torrance Hospital Association are planning to see that the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial Hospital grows right along with the city.

Under contemplation now is the construction of a wing to house all maternity patients, and thus relieve congestion in the 65-bed main hospital wings. Capacity of the new wing is undetermined, as the deal is still in the preliminary planning stage. However, it will be designed to house all expectant women or new mothers and their offspring, and will include lying-in rooms, delivery rooms, and isolation areas for infants.

Hospital attaches have long felt the need for this addition to the present facilities. It is planned to construct the maternity ward on ground next to the Christian Church, and the wing will probably extend to Engracia Ave.

No organized fund raising drive has as yet been started, but already there is \$1000 in the kitty, the gift of the Harvey Machine Co., 19200 S. Western Ave.

And last February, the annual Hospital Ball, which was a big success during the early days of the institution, was revived by the newly-formed women's auxiliary to the association. Approximately \$1500 was raised through the dance, with the bulk of the money being used to purchase a diathermy machine.

Mrs. R. R. Smith, president of the auxiliary, said the auxiliary plans to make the ball an annual affair. Proceeds will be earmarked for the benefit of the hospital, in keeping with the group's purpose to assist the institution in any way possible. One of the main projects of the auxiliary, is a sewing circle for the hospital, under the direction of Mrs. William E. Grubbs of Lomita.

opened May 9, 1925—the hospital has had only two super-visors, Miss Elsa Hammerstrom, currently serving, and Miss Esther Maxwell.

**Active Direction**  
Miss Hammerstrom succeeded to her post in 1942, following the retirement of Miss Maxwell for reasons of health. She is charged with the active direction of the daily hospital routine, since there is no resident physician. Emergencies are handled by rotating the job among the active doctors on the staff.

Miss Maxwell, the original superintendent, was credited with much of the early success of the hospital. It was she who employed a few months before the institution opened, selected most of the equipment and made sure it was in order for opening day.

That day found 3000 callers interested in touring the hospital. So interested were they, Miss Maxwell recalls, that they started pounding on the front door as early as 6:30 in the morning, and kept coming in a steady stream until midnight had come and gone before the last one left.

Miss Maxwell has done little except guard her health since her retirement. She only recently returned to her Torrance home at 1404 Cota Ave., from the east coast, where she spent a year with her niece.

Her interests lie with the young women who make up the membership of the Business and Professional Women's Club and the YWCA.

**First Class**  
That Torrance secure a first class hospital was the aim of Jared Sidney Torrance. And that is indeed growing with the City hospital has measured up to of Torrance.



# DICALITE GROWS WITH TORRANCE

The Dicalite plant on Madison Avenue began operation twenty-two years ago, adding another unit in the great Torrance industrial area. Since that time the original production capacity of this plant has been more than doubled, by improved operating techniques as well as by expansion of facilities. In growing

with Torrance, Dicalite has utilized the services, equipment and supplies of neighbor firms and factories and reciprocated by supplying diatomaceous materials as needed. Growth is a cooperative process and Dicalite is proud to contribute toward the progress of Torrance.

# GREAT LAKES CARBON CORPORATION DICALITE DIVISION

Plants at Walteria and Lompoc, Calif.;  
Terrebonne, Oregon; Basalt, Nevada



TORRANCE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL