

Two New Schools To Open Double Sessions in Fall

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CHAIN OF MOTHERS ON HIGHWAY BLOCKS TRAFFIC FOR CHILDREN

Fall Classroom Prospects Given

By TOM RISCHE

When Torrance School Board members and administrative officials go to sleep, they don't count sheep. They count children.

Uttering a collective gasp, the board took a look at the amount of building activity going on in the city, and made plans for new schools and additions to present facilities.

Estimates presented to the board indicated that all but three elementary schools—Torrance, Riviera, and Fern-Greenwood—will have some children on double session next year, with the greatest number at Wood, Carr, Meadow Park, Madrona, Crenshaw, and North Torrance schools.

High School Relieved

On the other hand, completion of North Torrance High School will relieve present double sessions at Torrance High School at least temporarily.

The board gave the go-ahead signal for preliminary site work and soil testing on the site of the South Torrance High School on Pacific Coast Hwy. Administrators hope the school may be at least partially completed by 1957 to carry the growing crop of teenagers, and prevent resumption of high school double sessions.

Area by area, the picture looked something like this:

SOUTH TORRANCE—Completion of Newton School in September will relieve the double sessions at Riviera School early in the year, but expected completion of large housing tracts in the area will force Riviera back on double session early. Newton will have about 100 third graders on double session to start the year.

Parkway Planned

Present plans call for the official purchase of the Parkway site, estimated at \$47,000, and start on preliminary plans for construction of the school, which is expected to relieve the pressure on Riviera and Newton Schools when completed. Its estimated cost is \$460,000.

Seaside School, where eight portable classrooms have just been completed, will start the year with 284 second and third graders on double session.

Although 12 classrooms were

Bus Drivers Win Honors

Wayne Branum, bus driver for the Torrance Unified School District, was named runner-up to the grand champion in the third annual School Bus Roadshow held recently at Arcadia.

For his efforts, Branum received a trophy, which was also useful in the form of a pepper grinder.

Driver Al Thompson won first place in the medium bus division.

In the competition, bus drivers from various districts compete in driving and safety tests. Both will enter the San Jose School Bus Roadshow on July 10, at their own expense.

LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE

New Plan Slated at Walteria

More requests already have been received for enrollment in the "little red schoolhouse" classes this fall at Walteria School than there are available openings. The Torrance School Board was told Tuesday night. In the program, 225 children in the school will be placed in classes in which three different grades are taught at the same time. Children from the first, second and third grades will be in one room, while those from fourth, fifth, and sixth will be combined in one.

completed at Meadow Park School last September, it will start next September with some 500 students from the first through sixth grades on double session.

Bids Expected

Sepulveda School, which may relieve some of the pressure on Meadow Park and Seaside Schools, is now in the final stages of planning, with bids expected to be let this summer for completion some time during the next school year. It is located in the center of a new housing tract.

Walteria School, where a four classroom addition was finished last September, may begin the year with 297 youngsters in the first, second, and third grade on double session.

The city's newest school, Hillside, may open the year with one class of 33 students on double session. It was completed last January, and took many students who formerly went to Walteria School.

Anza School Planned

Preliminary plans for purchase of a site for Anza School, also in the huge Kauffman tract, are being made by the board. This would help relieve pressure on Sepulveda and Meadow Park Schools.

CENTRAL TORRANCE—Howard Wood School, with 559 students from the first through the seventh grade on double sessions, is the most crowded of the city's schools. Plans for portable classrooms at the school are being made.

Also under consideration is a plan for another school somewhere north of Wood School to relieve congestion. Officials plan to seek another site in the area.

Torrance Elementary School, in a part of town which is not growing as rapidly as others, is in a good position, with no double sessions expected.

No Double Sessions

Also in an area which is less rapidly expanding, no double sessions are expected at Fern-Greenwood School.

On the other hand, Madrona School may have some 437 students in the first through fifth grades on double session this fall. A four-classroom unit is being planned there, as well as an addition to the administrative unit.

Officials also indicated that they may seek another site between Madrona and Crenshaw Aves., and north of Sepulveda, for another school which would relieve crowded conditions at Madrona School.

NORTH TORRANCE—Crenshaw School, where 18 classrooms were completed this year, will begin the 1955-56 school year with 368 first, second, and

(Continued on Page 7)



THE FRONT LINE ON "MORGUE ALLEY" . . . Mothers living east of Hawthorne Ave. and south of Sepulveda Blvd., form a chain across six-lane Hawthorne Ave. to protect small children who must cross the State highway to attend Meadow Park School. The crossing is unmarked, and the area is not posted as a school zone. The legal speed limit there is 55 miles an hour.

(Herald photo)

Incinerator Ban Being Studied

The effect of the ban on backyard incinerators on the city of Torrance is under study.

Since Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors extended its deadline from July 1 to October 1 for elimination of the single-chamber burners, this city will have three and a half months to make the necessary adjustments to comply with the ruling.

Replacement of the incinerators was advocated by the County Air Pollution Control District as a means of removing one of the villains in the smog situation.

Announcement of the ruling postponing the deadline to October 1 was made Thursday at a public hearing in Los Angeles when the Air Pollution Control District argued its case against incinerators before a tumultuous crowd in the Supervisor's chamber.

County Manager Arthur J. Will explained that only about half of the 48 cities in the county would be able to meet the July 1 deadline. Vote for the extension was 4 to 1, with

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn dissenting.

While persons in the audience vociferously opposed the ban, research scientists testified that the open air incinerators are major contributors to air pollution. At the same time, they emphasized the rubbish is not the only cause.

Prohibition of incinerators in Torrance will mean that materials now burned will have to be included in the pickups made of non-combustibles. These are delivered to the city dump at the north end of Madrona Ave. where it is buried.

Additional personnel will be required to handle the increased volume of rubbish, and new load packers will be needed for collections.

The public will have to be instructed as to new requirements regarding such matters as packaging.

W. E. Kalbfleisch is the new commander of Bert S. Crossland Post 170 of the American Legion.

Installation of new officers will be held June 21 at the Legion Hall, 1109 Border Ave.

Cement Hopper Issue Decision May Be Delayed



CLYDE P. BARNETT . . . To Discuss Aircraft

Future of Local Aircraft Firms Breakfast Topic

A live subject of far-reaching importance — "Future of the Aircraft Industry in Southern California" — will be discussed tomorrow at the 7:30 a.m. monthly breakfast meeting of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

The meeting will be at the YWCA Building, Carson and Plaza Del Amo, with Clyde P. Barnett, manager of the aviation department of the Los Angeles Chamber, and a national aviation figure, as speaker.

Barnett, who is an authority on Southern aviation, will discuss Secretary Talbot's recent statement that the aircraft industry should be dispersed.

The speaker was a pilot during World War II, was an airport owner and operator four years, has 5000 hours flying time, and is a member of the National Association of Aviation Writers.

A member of the board of directors of the National Aeronautics Association, he is official timer for the Federation Aeronautique Internationale, keeper of all international aircraft speed records.

Candidates for the "Miss Community Fair" title will be introduced.

Reed H. Parkin, former president will preside.

Probation Given Youth After Crash

Jack L. Johnson, 18, of 21337 Carollade, was sentenced to 18 months probation in Compton Municipal Court last week by Judge Donald Dunbar following his conviction on charges of involuntary manslaughter resulting from a fatal traffic collision in April.

Young Johnson, who has been employed as a truck driver, was permitted to continue driving in connection with his employment, but must forgo all other driving as a condition of his probation. He had no record of citations or traffic accidents prior to the April accident.

The charges against Johnson arose out of a crash at Rosecrans and Broadway April 9 in which Julius A. Eggers was killed and his young son injured.

Johnson also was ordered to pay \$400 to the widow of Eggers to help defray hospital and funeral expenses.

Testimony at Johnson's hearing indicated that he had kept his car in excellent mechanical condition, and that his speed probably was not excessive at the time of the crash.

Mothers Battle 'Morgue Alley'

A chain of mothers across busy Hawthorne Ave. at 230th St. were employed last week to protect small children crossing to attend the Meadow Park School which must cross the six-lane speedway without benefit of crosswalks, school signs, or signals.

Taking the matter into their own hands after State officials gave them no satisfaction on a petition with 179 signatures which requested safety measures in the area, the mothers congregated on the corner Friday noon—the busy hour with double session schedules—and blocked traffic by standing arm-in-arm as a human chain so the hundreds of children could get across the six-lane thoroughfare safely. Hawthorne Ave. at that point has just been rebuilt and the second barrel of traffic lanes opened last week. The new roadway has no safety zones, there are no school warning signs in the area, and the corner is just another corner to the cars and trucks on Hawthorne Ave., which can legally speed along the State highway there at 55 miles per hour.

300 Cross Street
Nearly 300 children living in the home development east of Hawthorne and south of Sepulveda must cross the street at 230th St. twice a day to attend classes at Meadow Park School, several of the mothers told the HERALD Friday.

Hawthorne Ave. is a heavy truck route from Pacific Coast Hwy. into the Hawthorne-Inglewood area, and it carries thousands of cars a day. And, it is going to get worse.

Many of the mothers employ a shuttle system with the family auto each morning and noon taking loads of children to school rather than let them cross the State highway.

"This is probably what happened the morning State officials opened a traffic count on the corner," one mother told the HERALD. State officials said the corner didn't meet the requirements set up by the State for installation of signals and other safety devices. They reported to PTA officials in the area that their count had shown that 77 children crossed the intersection during the count—not a sufficient number to warrant expenditure of funds for the signals.

City's Hands Tied
City Manager George Stevens told the HERALD that the city's hands were tied on the matter. Inasmuch as Hawthorne is a State highway, the city is not permitted to do anything to the roadway. The city paint crews cannot paint the crosswalks, school signs on the roadway, or do anything without State approval.

The mothers of the area don't expect anything to help the situation this week—the last week of school. But, they

officially opposed the ban, research scientists testified that the open air incinerators are major contributors to air pollution. At the same time, they emphasized the rubbish is not the only cause.

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Speakers at a public meeting held Thursday night by the recently organized Home Savers League protested the conditions would not be legally binding.

Mrs. Paul Slonecker, 24430 Neece Ave., Walteria, read from minutes taken at Walteria civic group meetings in 1948 when the company is said to have promised to plant trees to hide operations from public view and to confine sand and gravel operations to "the other side of the hill."

Mrs. Slonecker said these conditions were never met.

Lee Storey, vice president of the League, was chairman of the meeting. Lee O'Malley is president.

Planners OK 50-Lot Carson Area Tract
The County Regional Planning Commission approved the subdivision Tuesday of eight acres of land in the Carson area.

The property, to be divided into 50 lots by the Home Savings and Loan Assn. of Beverly Hills, is located north of Carson St. and east of Normandie Ave.

certainly hope somebody can see the seriousness of their plight before school opens next fall.

Olive Taylor, Mother of Dr. Wood, Succumbs

Final rites for Mrs. Olive Taylor, 85, mother of Dr. Howard Wood, and Mrs. William H. Joy, will be held this morning in Stone and Myers Chapel at 10 a.m. She died Friday night in Torrance Memorial Hospital.

A native of Kent County, Mich., she married George Emmons Wood in 1888, and moved to Aberdeen, Dakota Territory, where seven of their eight children were born. In 1902, they moved to a farm near Amity, Ore. Mr. Wood died in 1908. She later married Amanzo Thomas, who died in 1919.

She married W. E. Taylor in 1922, and they moved to Torrance in 1947. He died in 1953.

In Amity, Ore, she helped to organize the chapter of the Eastern Star and during World War I, was a leader in Red Cross work. She was president of the Women's Assn. of the First Methodist Church there.

She is survived by four sons, Dr. Howard Wood, of Torrance; Dr. Leonard Wood, of Laguna Beach; Dr. Walter Wood, of Corona; and Herman E. Wood, of Amity, Ore.; three daughters, Mrs. Ralph E. Storey, of McMinnville, Ore.; Mrs. William H. Joy, of Torrance; and Mrs. Cyril E. Richards, of Granville, O.; 13 grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren; and one great great grandchild.

Radio to Aid CD Efforts

Radio's role in civil defense was stressed at a meeting Friday in Los Angeles of 200 civil defense leaders and public officials from Fresno to San Diego, where George Powell, Torrance Planning Commission secretary, and Area G alternate coordinator, attending.

The meeting included a briefing on the Civil Defense exercise Wednesday, when direction of the exercise will come under Powell in Area G.

Southern California Broadcasters Association will donate talent and time to the civil defense efforts, Powell said. He reported that a decision was made at the meeting to clear all future announcements through regional headquarters to prevent confusion.