

# Good Morning -- Here's Your Sunday Herald

## SCHOOL BOARD SETS OCTOBER VOTE ON STATE AID, NEW OVERRIDE TAX

The Only Paper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

### Torrance Herald

Sunday

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# Property Values in City Increased by \$23 Million

## Final Figures Due in August

Torrance's assessed valuation has increased approximately \$23 million, according to preliminary estimates received Friday by City Manager George Stevens from the County Assessor's office.

Total secured valuations was put at \$109,792,700 and unsecured at \$4,786,220, according to the assessor. Approximately half a million dollars of the unsecured valuation is being contested.

Still to be added by the state later this year is the assessments of public utilities, which should reach approximately \$9 million this year, Stevens said. Last year's public utilities assessments totaled \$8,559,500.

The new totals, if upheld in the final assessment figure, would mean that Torrance city and school officials would be able to tax a total of approximately \$123,000,000 in land and property holdings in the city during the 1956-57 fiscal year which started July 1.

### Official Surprised

City Manager Stevens' budget, now before the Council for formal hearings, was drawn up on an estimated total assessed valuation of \$114,800,000. He admitted that it was conservative, but expressed surprise Friday at how conservative it had been.

School officials, on the other hand, had been slightly less conservative in their estimates, and had based their budget on an estimated \$115 million valuation.

Effects of the unexpected boost in valuation on the city's tax rate may be indicated at tomorrow evening's Council meeting. Two Councilmen already have voiced opposition to raising the city's tax rate from 95 cents to \$1.

At the first budget hearing last Tuesday, Councilmen Victor Benstead and Nicholas Dralle stated they favored meeting the budget without raising taxes. They may gain support from other Councilmen tomorrow in view of the figures released Friday.

Tomorrow's budget hearing is the final formal hearing slated before the Council. Tax rates will not be set until August, when the official valuation figures are released by the County, although a policy on the rate could be determined by the Council now.

Torrance's valuation increase of \$23 million was the third highest in the County. Only the cities of Los Angeles and Long Beach showed greater increases during the past year.

### Temperatures

The following daily temperatures were recorded in Torrance last week at the fire department main station.

	Low	High
Sunday	58	78
Monday	62	71
Tuesday	54	70
Wednesday	55	73
Thursday	56	72
Friday	56	74
Saturday	55	74

## School Election Set For Oct. 9

Backed by the endorsement of the Torrance Industries' Tax Committee and weeks of preparation and planning the Board of Education Tuesday night okayed an override tax proposal which will be brought to voters Oct. 9.

The board also set Oct. 9 as the date for an election to determine whether or not Torrance voters will put the stamp of approval on a proposition requesting state aid funds in the sum of \$14 million. Approval of one proposal without passage of the other will sink the board's plan of providing adequate classroom space, facilities and teachers' salaries, officials said.

With the recent announcement of the city's increase in assessed valuation, it may be that Torrance taxes will be raised only a fraction of the 75-cent maximum, another source stated.

Decision to put the override tax proposal on the Oct. 9 ballot was unanimous. Hull and other school administrators received favorable comment from the industries' tax group at a special meeting prior to the board session.

**New Building**  
Some eight new schools, including the new South High School, now are under construction or in the planning stages. Construction is at an all-time high in trying to keep pace with the most vigorous growth of the district in the city's history.

In other business Tuesday, Charlton A. Mewborn, local attorney, was re-elected president of the board. He has served in that capacity for the past year. Joseph Arnold was elected vice president, succeeding Dr. Joe Bay.

The board also approved a change in the El Nido-Perry School boundary in North Torrance and studied a similar proposal to re-zone the Meadow Park-Madrona School line.

## Pair Face Court Tomorrow On Forgery Charges

Two forgery suspects who were returned here recently from their San Francisco hideout, face preliminary hearing tomorrow in South Bay Municipal Court on charges they passed a number of forged checks in this area.

Maxine Crawford, also known as Gwendoline M. Holder, 32, a waitress of 2229 Cabrillo Ave., and Doyle Hornbeck, 34, a bartender who listed the same local address, were taken into custody by San Francisco police on a tip from authorities here.

The two reportedly forged and passed seven checks at markets and stores in the Torrance area. Total amount of the worthless documents was placed at an approximate \$325.

Hornbeck, who has a police record dating back to 1944 on such charges as burglary and petty theft, is being held in county jail on \$1500 bail. The Crawford woman is free after posting bail, authorities said. The pair were returned here June 26 from the Bay Area.

## Work Shops Are Looted

Sheriff's deputies are seeking burglars who looted the work shops of two Lomita longshoremen last week, getting nearly \$120 in tools, ammunition, and knives.

Sylvester B. Chesney, 43, of 2021 W. 255th St., told deputies that someone entered his work shop and took four hunting knives and ammunition. Value of the stolen goods was set at about \$35.

Kenneth W. MacHale, 31, of 2027 W. 255th, said tools valued at \$83 were taken from his shop at the same time.



CHARLTON A. MEWBORN  
Re-named to Board Post

## Pooch Licenses Need Renewal; Vaccination Set

Torrance dog owners are reminded by authorities that dog licenses for the fiscal year 1956-57 expired last Saturday and application for a new license must be made by Sept. 1 to avoid penalty.

Dog licenses may be obtained at City Hall, 1511 Craven Ave., for \$3. If licenses are not obtained by Sept. 1, the fee will carry an added \$1.50 as penalty.

In connection with the dog licensing, rabies vaccination clinics will be held soon in the city. All dogs in the city must be vaccinated against rabies, according to city ordinance.

Veterinarians will be on hand at El Retiro Park on July 12, McMaster Park, July 19, and Torrance Park, July 26, for vaccination clinics. Hours of vaccination will be from 7 to 9 p.m. at each session.

Cost of vaccination at the clinics will be \$1.50. Dog owners may also have their dogs vaccinated at a veterinarian's office.

## Traffic Class Slated For TPD Officers

Special classes on traffic problems and their enforcement will begin for some local police officers Wednesday night at 7 p.m. in the council chambers. Assistant Chief Percy Bennett has announced.

Sgt. Harold Ponzazzo, California Highway patrolman who has just completed a special course in traffic regulations, will instruct. Seven Wednesday night classes will be held before the course concludes.

All officers of the local traffic department will be required to attend the sessions, Bennett said. Other police officers also the classes, too, Bennett concluded.

Invitations have been sent to neighboring communities to send police representatives to may attend the classes, he added.

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## Memorial Rites Held for Pilot

Memorial services for Capt. Robert F. Shirley, pilot of the ill-fated United Airlines plane that went down in a collision with a TWA liner over the Grand Canyon, were held at 2 p.m. yesterday in the Neighborhood Church in Palos Verdes.

In attendance were many members of the Palos Verdes Breakfast Club in which Capt. Shirley was active. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and daughter Linda, 11, of 585 Via Del Monte.

## Dr. Larson Takes Gavel For Rotary

Dr. Raymond A. Larson took over as the new president of the Rotary Club of Torrance at the regular weekly dinner meeting Thursday at the Women's club building.

Dr. Larson succeeds A. E. Thompson who completed his term of office with the annual "Demotion" party held June 27 at the Portuguese Bend club.

The new president's efforts to report on the convention of Rotary International, held recently in Philadelphia, met with so much interference from club members that he adjourned the meeting early.

Leonard Ensminger, administrator of Torrance Memorial Hospital, was inducted as the newest member of Rotary in the local club. Ensminger was a member of Rotary in the San Gabriel Valley before accepting his hospital appointment here.

## Four Injured In Traffic Crashes Here

Four persons were injured in traffic crashes here last week, with two of the victims hospitalized at Harbor General Hospital from injuries suffered in a crash at Crenshaw Blvd. and Pacific Coast Hwy.

Marcella Orrell, 16, of 23826 Ward St., and Vern H. Metro, 23, of Compton, suffered injuries when cars driven by Metro and Paul C. Palmer, 59, of Crestline, collided at Crenshaw and Coast Hwy. Thursday night. Miss Orrell and Metro were taken to General Hospital for treatment.

Cars driven by George R. Conkley, 36, of Gardena, and Kenneth B. Brown, 20, of 2445 Lomita Blvd., Lomita, were involved in a crash early yesterday morning on Western Ave. near 204th St.

Gloria M. Conkley, 30, of Gardena, and Eunah E. Shelby, 31, of 2325 W. 241st St., Lomita, were injured. They suffered minor injuries, according to reports of the accident.



ADMIRING CITATION... City officials are shown inspecting the citation issued Thursday by Market Service, nationwide specialists in municipal bus insurance, for the city's outstanding safety record in bus operations. Left to right are Marshall Chamberlain, bus superintendent; Russell Lund, Market's local representative; City Manager George Stevens and Mayor Albert Isen.

## City Bus Lines Honored For Safe Driving Record

Torrance's bus drivers were singled out Thursday for their outstanding record of safety—two of them with a 10-year accident-free record—as representatives of the company insuring the lines cited the city for its safe conduct of the lines. The citation carries with it a substantial reduction in insurance premiums.

Handing the emblem to city officials Thursday was Russell H. Lund, representative here of the Market Service, nationwide specialists in bus insurance. On hand to receive the citation and hear the news of the premium reduction were City Manager George Stevens, Bus Superintendent Marshall Chamberlain, and Mayor Albert Isen.

Two drivers, Lloyd Crowther and Sherman Miller, were honored at the same time for compiling 10-year records of safe driving without a single chargeable accident. Other drivers approaching the 10-year mark include Silas Whitman, 8 years; Joel Whitman, 7 years, and Milo Gilbert, 7 years.

Others who have received safe driving awards for more than one year of accident-free driving include William Faren, 3 years; Harry Dudley, Oral Hunter, Clarence Junior, Joseph Kuddes, Henry Litzinger, and Frank Rosenfeld, 2 years; and Marvin Anderson, Lester Clouch, Ernest Pena, and Lester Riehm, 1 year.

Superintendent Chamberlain said the premium reduction could not have been made without the records compiled also by other drivers, including Walter Boskovich, Robert Carroll, John Higginbotham, Anthony Jessome, James Martinez, George Papac, and Frank Vogel.

Credit for the safety record also was given to members of the bus maintenance crew at the city garage by Superintendent Chamberlain. He credited Jesse Cahill, James Crowther, Murray Cosby, Bill Disario, John Disario, Ivan Eckersley, Ed Enrietta, Paul Hughes, Lloyd Hughes, Frank Jones, John King, Isaac Muller, Leroy Parr, Paul Stonecker, W. G. Stevens, and Bob Yancey with keeping the buses in top mechanical condition.

Motorcyclist Milton Lee Jacobs, 25, of Santa Monica, died early Saturday morning at Harbor General Hospital from injuries sustained in a crash at Gardena Stadium Friday evening.

Jacobs spun out on his cycle and was run over several times by other cycles at the regular Friday evening race.



(Herald Photo)  
SHERMAN MILLER  
... Cited for Safety



(Herald Photo)  
LLOYD CROWTHER  
... 10 No-Hit Years

### Cyclist Dies From Crash

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