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Torrance Chamber Reveals Major Campaign Program

Directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, aiming for a 20 per cent increase in

membership and a \$7,500 boost in the organization's annual operating budget, have announced plans for a major expansion campaign.

Chamber officials have been briefed on: (1) A Program of Work designed to promote and protect the business interests of the area, and (2) An expansion campaign through which the organization plans to gain approximately 150 new members.

DETAILS OF both programs will be presented to the entire membership, as well as firms and individuals not now members, during a series of classified business group meetings to begin early in August. The membership will be asked to furnish the Chamber with a minimum annual budget of \$45,000. A concentrated membership drive is scheduled for mid-September.

Chamber Manager J. Walker Owens, urging support of plans for increasing the budget and improving the organization's effectiveness, pointed out that the Chamber needs at least that much to "handle routine functions efficiently and undertake an expanded Program of Work to provide aggressive leadership and organized management and enhance the livability of the area."

THE CHAMBER is presently operating on a pledged income of \$37,500. In addition, the organization receives \$15,000 from the City of Torrance. The latter funds are earmarked for contract services in the fields of publicity, promotion and advertising, a total sum which Chamber President George W. Post has described as insuffi-

cient to conduct the vigorous program needed at this time.

"There are many, many things that the chamber should do, and many services and facilities that we should provide, that we simply do not have the money or manpower to do," Post said.

Owens recently told directors that the proposed program was designed to "put the organization on a sound, business-like basis financially and provide a vehicle capable of carrying the increased community load brought on by fantastic growth, and the need for additional commercial and industrial development."

HE SAID that members and guests attending classified group meetings will be asked to submit suggestions for revitalizing the Chamber, as well as ideas for projects and activities needed to improve the community.

Post said that plans for the campaign follow closely the decision of the Chamber's Board of Directors to inaugurate and conduct a vigorous and aggressive program for the economic and civic development of the area.

"IT IS APPARENT that the power needed to increase the income of the Chamber of Commerce must be placed on a more realistic and dependable year-around basis if the community is to be provided with the type of aggressive organization it needs and deserves," Post said.

"A large membership and wide-spread base, representing all sections of the city and all segments of business, makes a strong and influential organ-

ization and must be one of the prime objectives of the Chamber of Commerce," the chamber President added.

Owens has announced that considerable realignment of the Chamber's committee structure is presently under study. This may result in the creation of additional active committees and divisions and provide more participation by more members working on projects and activities vital to the growth of the city and its enhancement as a place to live.

"THE CHAMBER of Commerce must concern itself with everything that relates to the city as a whole—cultural, industrial, recreational, educational, wholesale and retail trade, commercial, and all other matters which contribute to the local business climate," he said.

"To do a good job the Chamber must be adequately financed and it must be properly managed and managed," Post added, "and so we are seeking the support of community leaders in business, industry and the professions . . . and in every area of the community. We need the fullest cooperation of all interests in the city. The Chamber of Commerce must have sufficient money and volunteer manpower to accomplish the many clearly-defined objectives which need immediate attention."

Dagerman Rejoins Vickers

E. M. Dagerman, former El Camino College student, has been appointed an application engineer in the aerospace division of Vickers Inc., division of Sperry Rand Corp., at the firm's local plant.

Dagerman, previously employed by Vickers, rejoins the company following an affiliation with Space Equipment Corp. as an applications manager.

In addition to El Camino College, Dagerman was a student of business and engineering courses at Los Angeles City College and UCLA.

Named New Bank Officer

James L. Sutherland has been named operations officer at the Lomita-South Torrance branch of the Bank of America. He succeeds Michael Joyce.

Joyce has been assigned to the bank's Main and Carson branch.

Sutherland began his banking career in Torrance as a teller in 1958. Before his new assignment, he was assistant cashier at the Lomita-South Torrance branch.

He attended the American Institute of Banking, following graduation from a Florida high school.

I Was Warned . . .

Major Bills Delayed To End of Session

By VINCENT THOMAS
 Assemblyman, 68th District

When I was a youngster I was warned to expect anything in politics. The wisdom of that admonition was certainly proved by the startling, whirligig turn-about which marked the end of our 1963 regular session. Never before have so many major measures been delayed so late in the session. Never before have such important issues been decided in such dramatic climaxes.

To summarize quickly, the lead bill in the governor's tax revision program failed to get the needed votes in the Senate, an attempt to revive it failed, so the others were abandoned. Thereupon, the budget bill total was cut back from the requested \$3.25 billion to about \$3.14 billion, and passed at the lower figure. The Senate reduced the extra fund in the school support bill, and the Assembly refused to accept the cuts, so that bill also died.

TO NO ONE'S surprise, the governor expressed his dissatisfaction at the fate of these major components of his program, and indicated he would call a special session to force reconsideration of the matters. At first, an opening date of

Epilepsy Sabbath Observance Set

Churches and temples throughout Los Angeles County will observe Epilepsy Sabbath this weekend. Most worship services will be built around special programs.

The annual observance is designed to improve public attitudes and knowledge about Epilepsy. Funds from the special offerings will be used to help the 60,000 epileptic patients in the county.

Kiwanis to Hear Defense Program

Members of the Kiwanis Club will meet at Lococo's Restaurant in Manhattan Beach July 23 to hear a program on the defense system in the United States.

Jack King of General Telephone Co. will present the program, entitled "900 Seconds." It will deal with the giant defense system which warns the United States of enemy attack.

Airman 3/c Joe R. Crewse of El Cajon, Calif., has arrived with his unit for a three-month tour of duty at Aviano AB, Italy. His wife, Bonna, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard C. Shoup of 20935 S. Denker Ave.

Army S/Sgt. Shirley W. Qualls, whose father, Shirley L. Qualls, lives at 1522 Lomita Blvd., Harbor City, participated in a massive display of missiles, artillery and engineer equipment in honor of President John F. Kennedy's visit in Hanau, Germany, June 25.

July 1 was suggested. After consultation with Democratic leaders of both houses, however, the date of July 8 was picked. So, shortly after you read this, we will be back in Sacramento.

Reduction in the budget cut out funds for anticipated raises for state employees, it was said, as well as those for many new and expanded state activities such as increased aid to local mental health clinics. Defeat of the business tax speed-up bill, and killing of other tax bills, again threatened the balance of the state budget. Loss of the school fund bill means no additional state money for needs of increased enrollment, and no funds for smaller classes, special education of handicapped children, or additional scholarships.

THE GOVERNOR indicated he would sign the reduced budget bill, so that state operations will continue into the new fiscal year. He said that the reduction would force the state to operate on the level of the poorest state in the Union.

The governor also stated he would limit his proclamation calling the session to the three major topics of budget, taxes, and school support. He said he would recommend methods of handling these problems on at least a two-year basis, in order to permit a comprehensive study of the whole tax situation. He added that he would be glad to consider any alternatives submitted which might

meet the real needs of the state.

UNDER the Constitution, we are limited in a special session to action on only those matters which are included in the proclamation. The governor may add to his list if he wishes. However, we as legislators have the right to treat the topics as we see fit. We are to introduce our own measures relating to the agenda topics, to amend any bills that may be put in the hopper, and to pass or defeat any legislation. We can also set our own time for adjournment.

There is much speculation, of course, as to the probable length of the special session. Many of us believe that it will not last more than a week. Some, though, think that two or three weeks could be required to work out agreement on legislation in these politically and financially sensitive fields. Only time will tell.

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