

Divided Chamber OKs Tax Vote

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Torrance Herald

Morley Talks
To Chou En-Lai
(After Hours, Page 14)

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EXAM TIFF CLOSER TO BALLOT

A Penny for your Thoughts

The Pennies photographer asked several residents this week, "What is your impression of the crisis in Panama?"

Mrs. Earl Carter, 1878 Lincoln St.

"I think the American troops were justified in their measures. The U.S. made Panama what it is, and it was our money that built the canal, so I can't understand why our flag can't fly. We shouldn't back down."

Mrs. Frank Masulaitis, 1740 Gramercy Ave.

"I don't think we should back down from our stand. I am proud of the American students who went ahead and raised our flag at their school. The whole incident is Communist inspired, I think, and our actions are justified."

Mrs. Thomas Riddle, 1811 Gramercy Ave.

"It was our money that built the Panama Canal and I think we should be able to fly our flag over it. I think the Communists are behind it, so our troops should not back down. We have to protect the canal at all costs."

Jay Yates, 2810 Olive St.

"The Communists are behind the whole incident. The United States should protect the Panama Canal at all costs — after all, we do have a treaty with Panama for control of the Canal Zone. I definitely think our troops were right in returning the gunfire."

Mrs. John Barrington, 1541 Post Ave.

"The United States waited too long to act. The problem has been there for a long time. That is my main thought — action to protect the canal is right. If we had acted earlier, this would not have become a major crisis."

Override Tax Endorsement Nearly Fails

A divided Chamber of Commerce board of directors voted 6-5 to add their endorsement to the override tax proposal which will be the subject of a special school election next Feb. 4. The voting came on recommendations against the approval which had been given to the

City Moves To Purchase Barrow Pit

Purchase of the 10-acre Lomita Barrow Pit for a price of \$124,675 was authorized by the City Council Tuesday evening. The 10-acre site will then be sold or exchanged to provide a park site in the Victoria Knolls area of the city.

An offer of \$100,000 on the property was refused by the state, which said purchase of state properties by a municipality on a direct-sale basis must be made for the price set by the state.

Councilman Ross Sciarrotta, in moving to purchase the land, said, "It's dirt cheap. Let's get the land and then worry about the park." Sciarrotta and other councilmen contend the property will bring the city sufficient funds to purchase a park-site in the south Torrance area. Tentative plans call for the city to attempt to exchange the barrow pit for land further up on the hill to be used for a park.

Red Cross Flag To Fly Over City

A new flag will fly from the City Hall during March.

The flag, emblem of the American Red Cross, will be flown from the City Hall during the official Red Cross month.

board by the Chamber's education committee. The committee had split also, voting 3-2 to recommend against endorsing the proposal.

Dissenting members of both the committee and the board of directors indicated that some override tax probably was needed and could be supported, but voiced objections to the 90-cent proposal.

"Most of the board felt that the school administration, despite the economy mindness of the Board of Education, was not sufficiently cost oriented," one Chamber director said after the meeting Tuesday evening.

Jaycees to Install Seat Belts Again

Members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce will hold a seat belt clinic Saturday and Sunday in the parking lot of the Bank of America, Hawthorne Avenue and Sepulveda Boulevard.

Seat belts will be sold at \$5.95 each and installed free by the Jaycees. Belts meet all standards of the California Highway Patrol, and the clinics have been endorsed by the Torrance Traffic Safety Council and the Torrance Police Department.

The clinic will remain open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. Belts come in a choice of seven colors.



CONCERT PUBLICITY . . . The Torrance Area Youth Bands will sponsor a concert by the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra to be held at Mira Costa High School Saturday, March 14. The concert is one of several programs which the bands have planned to raise funds for a trip to New York and the World's Fair in August. Here, Mmes. Robert Enslin, Robert Padelford, and Richard Cassell begin to spread the news around town via the poster. (Herald Photo)

Council May Keep Issue From Voters

Whether examinations for police and fire chiefs in Torrance will be opened to men from outside the city will be decided by voters in the April municipal election. That is, IF . . .

Councilmen voted Tuesday evening to place the proposed changes on the April ballot as a charter amendment, but one councilman left open the possibility that the necessary five votes may yet be mustered to make the change without a charter amendment.

The big IF is Ross Sciarrotta, who opposed the change when it was submitted as a new ordinance on Oct. 1, 1963. Sciarrotta voted to put the measure on the ballot Tuesday, but said, "I may change my vote on the original ordinance."

THE CHANGE which is now proposed would open the examination for both police and fire chief to men in the first three ranks in the local departments, and to chiefs or men in the first three ranks below chief in all California cities of 80,000 or more population.

Other provisions in the proposed amendment would permit officers in the first three ranks of all California sheriff's departments and the Highway Patrol to take the examinations. Applicants would have to score at least 70 per cent on both the written and oral sections of the examination. No veteran's preference or efficiency, seniority, or other credit or preference" would be given, and examinations could not be downgraded.

Debate on the resolution placing the change on the ballot was — as it has been throughout the long controversy — quick and to the point.

COUNCILMAN Nicholas Dralle, who has opposed any change, opened debate when he asked, "Why is everyone moving to do this?" Dralle continued, "We have always advanced the assistant chief to chief. What I'm trying to find

Lost Zone Case Denied By Council

Property owners along the south side of 230th Street in the Marble tract lost the second round of their fight to restore multiple dwelling zoning Tuesday evening, and then gave immediate hints they will take the third round into the courts.

William Johnson, who spoke for the 28 property owners in the case, told THE HERALD after the Tuesday evening hearing, "we are considering taking this to court."

The property in question was purchased as an R-3 zone, originally designed to serve as a buffer strip between the Marble tract and a manufacturing zone south of 230th Street and west of Crenshaw Boulevard. The R-3 portion was apparently rezoned when the remainder of the Marble estate was rezoned for single-family homes.

PROPERTY owners say they weren't notified of the rezoning, and discovered they had lost the R-3 zone only when one of the owners applied for a building permit. They took the case before the City Council in November, and were told the Planning Commission would hold hearings to rezone the area back to R-3 with precise plans required for development.

The Planning Commission recommended the rezoning be denied, and councilmen voted unanimously to concur with the commission.

Johnson told the council during the hearing procedure (Continued on Page 2)

The Tax Override

City's Rapid Growth Key to School Issue

(Note: This is the second of several articles which THE HERALD will publish on the forthcoming Special Tax Election called by the Torrance Unified School District. The series will examine the reasons behind the override election to uncover the ways and hours of problems faced by the local schools today.)

By JERRY REYNOLDS
Herald Staff Writer

When federal census takers made their rounds of Torrance in 1950, they counted slightly more than 22,000 noses. Were those same census takers to make rounds of Torrance today, they'd probably swear it wasn't the same place — for they would find 120,000 noses in the county's fourth largest city.

If there is a real key to the problems now faced by the Torrance Unified School District, it is found in those two figures. For Torrance has grown at a rate which can be called nothing less than astronomical. And with the growth of the city, the schools have had to grow — and at an even faster rate.

There are more statistics. Some are unbelievable — but we have seen what has happened. Those 22,000 people in 1950 were young by any standard, for half of them were under 28. But today's population is even younger, and seems to be getting younger still. In 1963, half of the people of Torrance were under

25, and fully one-third are between 5 and 21 years of age. The results is seen in the classrooms of Torrance schools, for 27 per cent of the city's population is attending public schools.

THE HISTORY of the Torrance School District is a history of expansion and growth, necessitated by ever-increasing demands upon the public schools — demands for more classrooms, for better education, and for special programs. The demands cost money; yet, they can not be overlooked. A clipping from THE HERALD for Sept. 20, 1948, re-

(Continued on Page 2)

Town Hall Adds Two Names To List for Meeting Here

Assembly Charles E. Chapel (R-46th District), Deputy Attorney General Raymond M. Mombosse, and Ray Gauer, executive secretary of the National Committee for Decent Literature, have been added to the list of persons who will participate in next Wednesday's town hall meeting on obscene literature and juvenile delinquency.

Chapel will be the guest of honor at the forum. Gauer will be an observer for the National Committee for Decent Literature, while Mombosse will represent the State Attorney General's office on the panel. Plans for the forum are now complete, according to chairman William Faulds. The town hall meeting, which will explore the relationship between obscene literature and juvenile delinquency, is being sponsored by the Youth Welfare

Commission.

Mayor Albert Isen has proclaimed the month from Jan. 14 to Feb. 14 as "Anti-Obsecenity Month" in Torrance. The mayor issued the proclamation at Tuesday's meeting of the City Council, and urged all citizens to attend the town hall forum.

Assemblyman E. Richard Barnes (R-San Diego) will serve as moderator for the 45-minute panel discussion. Panel members include: Assemblyman Vincent Thomas (D-68th District), Dean of the Assembly; and Lt. Gus Rethwich, juvenile officer in the Torrance Police Department.

Others on the panel are: Dr. Richard W. Thomas, from the Thomas Moore Marriage Family Clinic; Thomas Devine, pro-

fessor of sociology at Pierce College; and Deputy District Attorney James Clancy; as well as Mombosse.

Dr. Thomas is a former staff psychiatrist at Los Angeles State College. Clancy, a former assistant city attorney in Burbank, is considered an expert on the subject of obscene literature.

The forum is slated to begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Torrance High School Auditorium. The panel discussion will be followed by a 45-minute open forum in which the audience will participate.

Joseph Piatt, chairman of the Youth Welfare Commission, said the meeting may be the first of a series of similar forums on topics of interest to parents and youths in Torrance.



EVERYBODY'S VOTING . . . Students at Sepulveda School will be holding an election of their own on Feb. 4, the date of the Torrance School Tax Override Election, so school administrators and students have formed a sort of "mutual urging society." Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, is shown here urging students to vote in their election, while Skip Hogue and Joyce West display some of the posters they will use to urge their parents to go to the polls the same day.

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