

Schools Meet Need with Building Program



BRICK SCHOOL . . . Framed through an arch leading into the new auditorium, a new brick classroom unit rises at the Joseph Arnold School site. The new school, designed for increasing population in the south Torrance area, will be ready for classes next fall. Total cost of the school is estimated at \$580,000.

Variety, Beauty Is Aim

Torrance's increasing population is creating some problems for the Torrance Unified School District which are difficult to meet, especially with so many homes and apartments now under construction.

Every time a new housing tract or a new series of apartments are started, district officials must haul out their slide rules, their statistical tables, and their past experience and try to determine how many school children will need a place in the city's schools.

The problem, however, only starts at that point. The real problem becomes one of trying to find enough space for all the new students. The solution of the problem has led to a flurry of activity in school construction, and some \$3.6 million in new school facilities is now under construction.

DR. BERNARD Garen is the man who must finally find the solution to problems of increasing enrollments. Dr. Garen, whose position is director of new construction, must advise the superintendent on the need for new facilities, supervise the preparation of designs and plans, and represent the school district on the construction site when plans are finished and contracts awarded.

Presently, Dr. Garen is a busy man. A new classroom wing and a gymnasium are under construction at West High School, while 12 new classrooms are being added at Hickory Elementary School. New wings also are under construction at Wood Elementary School, and a brand new school is being built at 227th Street and Ocean Avenue.

Smaller projects, including bleachers and lights for South High Stadium, lights for the West High field, and restroom facilities on three athletic fields, also require Dr. Garen's attention. A new \$1.1 million science complex for Torrance High School will soon go to bid.

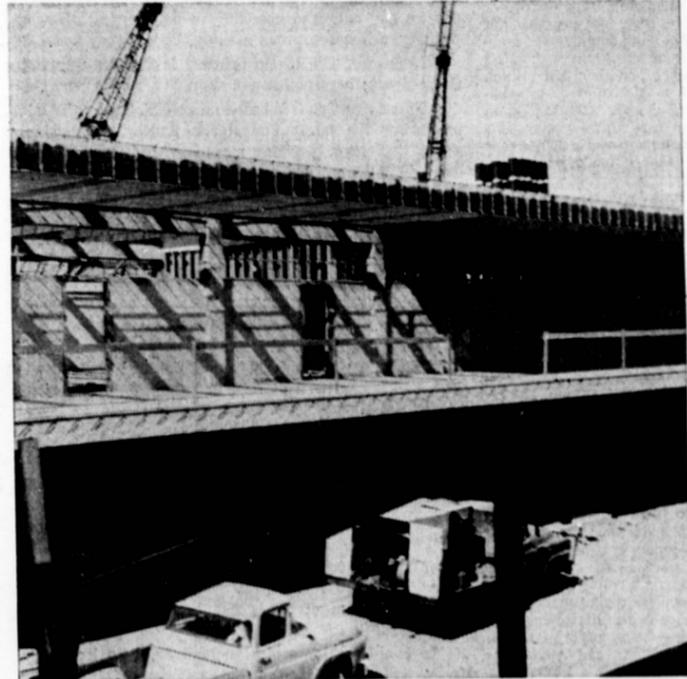
New construction is financed by bond issues. The arrangement is much the same as a home mortgage. Where the homeowner buys a home and lives in it while making payments on the loan, so the district builds needed facilities and uses them while paying off the bonds.

Pictures accompanying this article will give some idea of the problems faced by the schools in trying to get the most mileage out of each construction dollar. The result must be a highly integrated plan which emphasizes beauty, economy, variety, and low maintenance.



STEEL SPIDERWEB . . . A spiderweb of steel which will support the massive roof of a new gymnasium at West High School has begun to take shape. The gymnasium, badly needed by the Warrior physical education and athletics department, will be completed in August if the work

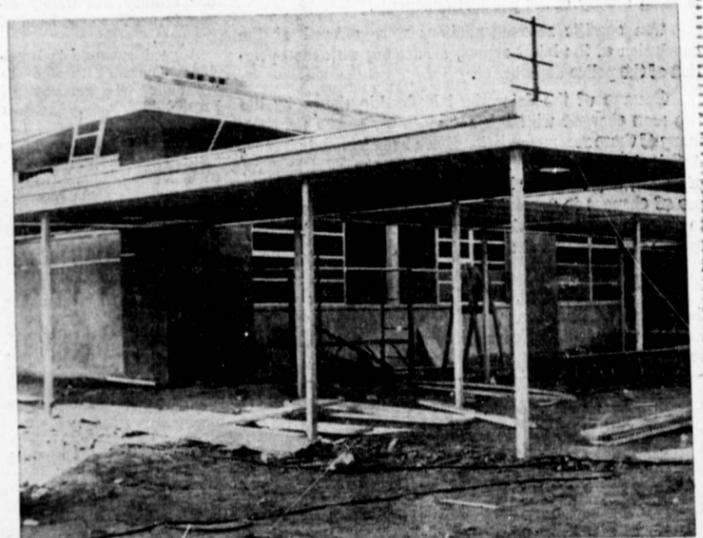
proceeds on schedule. Part of the third increment at West High School, the gym will be ready for classes in the fall. And, as a final note, Warrior basketball teams can expect to play on their own hardwoods come next season.



FOR WEST HIGH . . . Concrete walls and wood forms begin to take shape as a new classroom building rises on the West High School campus. The large classroom unit, designed to more than double the capacity of West High School, also provides many special classrooms which have not been included in the first buildings. The project will be ready for students next fall.



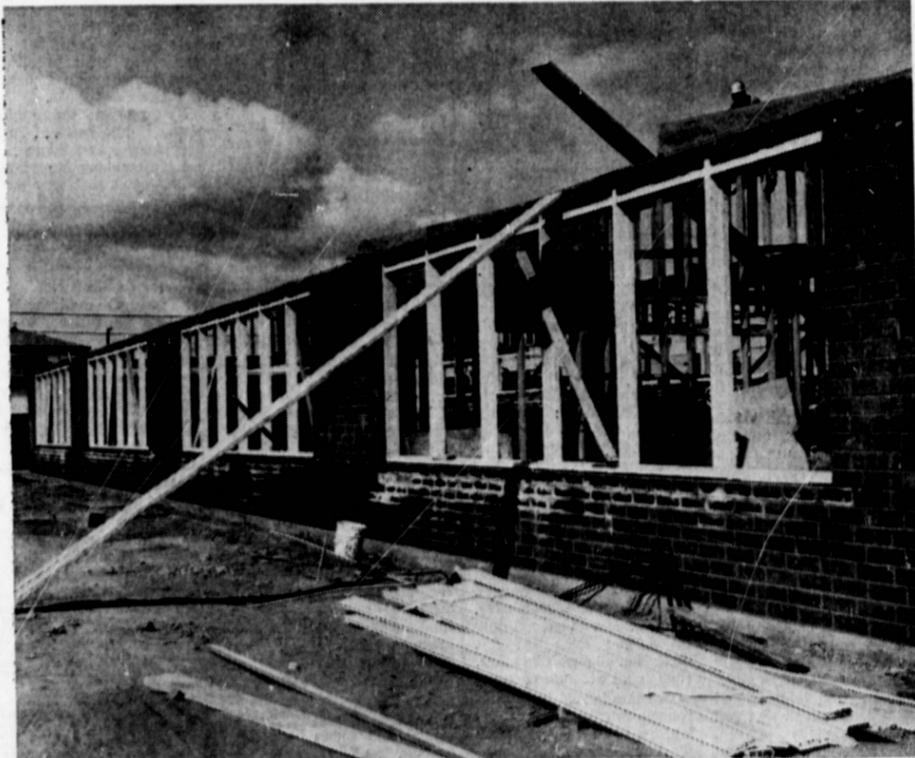
WORKING . . . A workman at the Hickory School site begins to finish the ceiling in one of the classrooms involved in an expansion program at the school. Twelve new classrooms will be built, and should be ready for occupancy soon.



NEARLY FINISHED . . . One of three four-room additions to the Hickory Elementary School, necessitated by expanding enrollments and new housing tracts in the area, is shown here. The building, one of three being constructed, contains four classrooms and a teacher's workroom. The additions will be ready sometime next month.



GIVING ORDERS . . . A superintendent at the West High School construction site notes changes and gives orders to a workman as the workman puts protective boards over a newly-poured concrete stairway. The project will double the size of West High when it is completed in August.



BRICK AND WOOD . . . Brick, used for its easy maintenance and permanent beauty, is being used in many classroom buildings like this one, located at the Joseph Arnold School. Several similar buildings are under construction at

the site to provide class space for nearly 600 students by next fall. The project, which will cost an estimated \$580,000, will provide a school for children in the southwest section of Torrance.



FOUNDATION TRENCH . . . Two workmen prepare forms for the foundation of a new classroom wing at the Howard Wood Elementary School. The addition, expected to be ready for students next fall, will provide enough classroom space to take care of expected increases in enrollment at the school. (Herald Photos by Jerry Reynolds)