

Volume 3; Number 1.

With this edition, the Torrance Press starts its third year of service to the greater Torrance area...

The Press saw that Torrance needed a new, aggressive and progressive newspaper...

And, assisted by our many friends and our advertisers, we continue to grow with Torrance.

Establishing a newspaper is a long,

hard pull.

Starting a second newspaper in a community is even harder, but on this score our task has been made easier because we are giving Torrance "the other side" of the news...

We have been presenting a clean, home newspaper, fit for children to read, because we play down the crime and feature the cultural and political life of the community...

You read more news about what is

going on in your community that directly effects YOU and YOUR POCKET BOOK, about your city government...

WE believe in a FREE PRESS, and we believe that the doings of the man on the street, the working man, the business man, and the family man...

That is why we feel that The Press is YOUR NEWSPAPER, its columns free for you to use to express your views...

For this reason, the Press has a far greater and more intense reader inter-

est than any other newspaper serving the greater Torrance area.

That is why our advertisers are getting better results.

That is why we continue to grow.

The publishers of the Press are Torrance residents.

They own their homes in Torrance. They do their buying in Torrance. They support Torrance institutions. The Torrance Press is produced in a Union shop.

Once again, as we enter our third year, we thank our readers and our advertisers for their faithful support and pledge ourselves to give this area the finest newspaper possible.

M. L. OWENS, Editor

W. R. ZAPPAS, Business Manager



Serving Torrance, Lomita, Shoestring, Harbor City and Keystone

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, APRIL 19, 1951

THIRD YEAR

Number 1

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WARD SYSTEM VOTE MOVE SEEN IN BUS LINE ROW



SEE YOU LATER... says Howard Matthews, 2170 Torrance Blvd., as he tries to escape magician Bill Morton who endeavors to saw off Howard's head...

Politicians Seek Divisions of City

That the furor over the bus service in Torrance is being "used" by the "politicians" in power as a "come on" for a special election to vote on the ward system of government...

The "powers that be" who want to perpetuate themselves in office by splitting the community into wards are using the transportation question to create "sectional" unrest...

Also, it is rumored, there may be another attempt to sell the bus lines to private interests; but if any question is brought up on the buses, friends of the Torrance Municipal lines will insist that it be a bond issue...

Which method of "wards" the "politicians" plan to submit to the people, if they can get them sufficiently aroused, has not come out of the "secret" meeting between the city officials and other "influential" interests.

One system could provide for nomination by wards and election by overall vote, such as they do in Long Beach. Another would provide for nomination and election by wards.

It was certain among those watching the maneuver that there would be a "slow down" effort, and that extreme care will be insisted upon, with ALL THE PEOPLE (not just that few) having a voice in the question.

It would require a charter amendment, they said. Meanwhile, Spelman and (Continued on Page Seven)

Board May Loosen Wage Purse Strings

The boosting of wages for all employees of the Torrance Unified School District was the cause of lengthy discussion on the part of the School Board Tuesday night.

Wages of all teachers in the district were tentatively discussed to be raised from \$200 to \$250 per year and a blanket increase for all employees in the system was studied by the Board.

The raise boost for all certificated personnel in the school system would cost the district \$76,426, according to statistics given for examination to the Board by School Superintendent J. H. Hull.

The raise consisted of the Board adopting two separate plans which would be put in operation simultaneously, an increment plan and a \$100 blanket raise plan. The Board committed itself to adopt the increment plan, if funds allowed, in November, 1950.

No immediate action was required or taken by the Board on the matter.

Film on Atomic Attack to be Shown Monday

A film, "The Atom Strikes" will be shown at 7 p.m. Monday, April 23 at the Torrance Civic Auditorium to the public at a meeting sponsored by the Torrance Civil Defense and Disaster Council, according to George Powell, assistant director of civilian defense.

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Reply on Standard Oil Dump Awaited

Whether or not the city of Torrance will use the vast dirt reservoir on Standard Oil property as its own city dump, instead of the existing one at Western and Plaza del Amo avenues, is still pending, according to City Manager George Stevens.

Five-Year-Old Falls in Ash Hole at Dump

There was once a little boy who lived across the street from the city dump. He wandered over there one day and fell hip deep in a miry ash-like substance from which he had a mighty tough time getting out of.

This is the story of little five-year-old Maginnis Greer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Greer, of 2443 Border avenue. Mrs. Greer said that her son came home last Thursday with more than six pounds of a substance silver in appearance entrenched in his clothing and weighing him down.

Both lads are reported all cleaned up and doing fine. (Continued on Page Seven)

Stevens informed the Press this week that he is now awaiting a reply from Standard Oil officials to a letter he had sent them inviting them to come here and discuss the leasing of the dump, located far from human habitation.

Hundreds of homeowners in the area surrounding the dump have beseeched the City Council many times to close down the present city dump, as they say it is infested with vermin, mice, rats and attracts flies to their homes.

Councilman Nick Draie has made the motion to close down the city dump four times at recent meetings of the City Council, but four times Mayor Bob Haggard, Councilmen Ed Karlow, Willys Blount and Harvey Spelman have seen fit to let the motion be lost "for want of a second."

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Border Ave. To be Paved In 2 Weeks

Border avenue residents from Plaza del Amo to Santa Fe avenues may expect to have the paving of the street in front of their homes started within the next two weeks, according to City Manager George Stevens.

Stevens said that until this time he was awaiting for the contractor to pave the streets as promised, but if the developer doesn't begin the work within the next two weeks, the city will.

That portion of Border avenue is a dedicated city-owned street, according to Stevens.

Adult Center Steering Group Named

The "Utopia" for Torrance's elder citizens is beginning to take on a more definite state as a steering committee for the Adult Recreation Center was selected at a meeting of representatives of various civic organizations held Wednesday, April 11, at the City Hall.

Chosen to serve on the committee to help speed progress for the planned \$7500 recreation center are Fred N. Mill, of National Supply; Lyle O'Hara, of the Torrance Veterans Council; Louis Deinger, assistant postmaster and representative of the American Legion; George Stevens, Torrance City Manager, and William H. Mayo, architect and contractor of the proposed 2304 square foot "L" shaped building.

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Representation at Court Hearing Urged

That Torrance should be represented at a hearing before the assembly judiciary committee at Sacramento from April 30 to May 1 was stressed this week by Councilman Nick Draie.

The number of judges and court location for the Torrance-South Bay area will be determined at this hearing. It seems likely that this area will be allowed three municipal judges, according to a statement by two assemblymen.

Assemblyman Charles Chapel, of Inglewood, and Vincent Thomas, of San Pedro, said they have assurance the legislature will adopt their proposal for three judges in the new district.

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HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA HITCH-HIKERS - Torrance citizens stranded in the Hollywood Riviera section as a result of the discontinuance of the Hollywood Riviera line of the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines last week are shown trying to get a ride into downtown Torrance to do some shopping. Standing, left to right, the hikers are Mrs. G. R. Smith, 505 Calle de Arboles and Mrs. Donald Whitney, 509 Calle de Arboles. Seated, left to right, are their sons, Tommy Smith and Chip Whitney.

Riviera Residents Cry 'Discrimination' on Buses

The anger of the Hollywood Riviera and Seaside Ranchos residents over the cancellation of their bus line to Torrance reached a high pitch at a meeting of residents on Monday night.

The discontinuance of the line, which leaves Hollywood Riviera citizens isolated and cut off from Torrance by all bus transportation, was effected by the city council recently on a motion made by Councilman Harvey Spelman, and opposed only by Councilman Nick Draie, sole council supporter of the line.

Representing the city of Torrance at the meeting were Mayor Bob Haggard, Councilman Harvey Spelman and Nick Draie and Bus Superintendent Marshall Chamberlain.

The meeting was brought about by a recent discontinuance of the Hollywood Riviera line, on a motion by Councilman Harvey Spelman who reported that line to be a deficit to the city.

The merchants met last Monday with Marshall Chamberlain. (Continued on Page Seven)

Alondra Court Gets Nod of Committee

A court at Alondra Park is on the state building schedule.

Approved by a state assembly committee last week was legislation designed to permit the construction of a county courts building in Alondra Park.

The measure, introduced by Assemblyman Vincent Thomas of San Pedro and Charles Chapel of Inglewood, won the unanimous "do pass" recommendation of the assembly committee on municipal and county government. It now goes to the assembly floor for passage to the senate.

The measure provides that the county board of supervisors, by four-fifths vote, may use or dedicate a part of Alondra Park in the vicinity of El Camino junior college as a site for headquarters for justices, municipal or superior courts. (Continued on Page Seven)

RUMOR SAYS KETTLER BUS TO BE CUT

Scuttlebutt has it that the city of Torrance may plan to cut or discontinue the Kettler Knolls-El Camino line of the Torrance Municipal Bus system.

It was rumored this week that the Kettler Knolls line, which is losing more money than the recently discontinued Hollywood Riviera line, may be the next arm to be cut from the Torrance Municipal Bus system.

Operation of the Hollywood Riviera line was discontinued on a motion by Councilman Harvey Spelman, who was supported in his motion by Mayor Haggard and Councilmen Ed Karlow and Willys Blount, sole defender of the line is Councilman Nick Draie.

It was pointed out at a meeting of Hollywood Riviera homeowners Monday night that the Kettler Knolls-El Camino line is losing more money than the Hollywood Riviera line. (Continued on Page Seven)

Free Chest X-Rays Offered Again in May

Free chest x-rays will again be available for all Torrance folk in the local area between the dates of May 2 to May 10, according to Dr. Roy O. Gilbert, County Health Officer.

The x-rays will be offered to the public at several locations in the Torrance Health District. No appointment is necessary, time involved is less than a minute, and there is no charge for the service to the individual, according to the announcement. All residents over 15 years of age are urged to obtain an x-ray, but minors must have the written consent of their parents.

Dr. Gilbert emphasized in his announcement that although many people in the area received chest x-rays during the county wide tuberculosis survey last health officials recommended annual chest x-rays for all citizens. "This provides protection for the person x-rayed, his family, and others in his community," Dr. Gilbert said. "An early diagnosis of chest ailments insures (Continued on Page Seven)