



**DEFIANCE**—Earl Truseatt, 16413 Haas ave., Torrance, signs one of the many referendum petitions now being circulated in Torrance. Petition calls for a vote of the people concerning the installation of parking meters in central Torrance. The City Council last week adopted for the final reading the ordinance providing for the installation of the meters here. Mrs. Ruth Deems shows Truseatt where to sign. If you haven't signed a petition on this important issue, volunteers will be stationed in front of the Torrance National Bank and Bank of America Saturday morning between 10 and 12. —Torrance Press Photo.

# HUNDREDS SIGN PETITIONS AGAINST PARKING METERS

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## Council's Public Beer Drinking Law Draws Fire

Voices of protest were raised this week by local church, school and civic leaders against an ordinance adopted in a four to one vote by the City Council last week allowing for the consumption of beer on any public place in the city of Torrance upon the obtaining of a permit from City Manager George Stevens to do so.

## 35 Nurses Needed at Hospital

That the Harbor General Hospital nursing staff is in dire need of 35 more nurses was voiced this week by A. L. Thomas, hospital director.

As the hospital patient capacity has been frozen to about 700 by the Board of Supervisors, Thomas said that, naturally, the more critical cases are the only patients allowed to remain in the hospital. This creates a greater number of nursing personnel needed per patient. At present, there are 151 nurses employed at the hospital. Total number of personnel positions at the hospital is 901, also frozen.

## Four Youths Injured in Auto Crash

Injured in a spectacular highway automobile crash early last Saturday, August 18, were four teenagers.

Still in Harbor General Hospital, though reported considerably improved are Ramiro Alcalá, 19, and Floyd Garcia, 19, both of Redondo Beach. Garcia suffered abrasions and contusions of the back and Alcalá sustained a crushed hand, three fingers fractured. Escaping with only cuts and bruises were two girl passengers in the auto, Shirley Bewley, 16, and LaRue Jensen, 14, both of Hermosa Beach.

Investigators Merwyn Porter and Jay Stroh said a sedan driven by Alcalá apparently rammed into a curbing while southbound along Pacific Coast Hwy., west of Pennsylvania Ave., veered across the thoroughfare and turned onto its side.

Several unidentified Navy enlisted men were praised by police for administering first aid to the injured before the ambulance arrived.

## So. Cal. Gas Wants Rate Boost of 20%

Southern California Gas Co., which serves Torrance and Lomita, asked the State Public Utilities Commission Saturday, Aug. 18, for an increase of approximately 20 per cent in gas rates.

The proposed increase would yield \$17,000,000 more a year from customers in nine Southern California counties, officials of the firm stated.

The application was filed in both the Los Angeles and San Francisco offices of the commission.

## Council Okehs \$17,938 of Appropriations

The City Council approved \$17,938.17 in appropriations at its meeting of August 14, 1951 on the recommendation of City Manager George Stevens.

Accounting for the largest amount approved was the sum of \$3605 for payment to Harvel's for 2000 feet of 2 1/2 inch fire hose, in accordance with the terms of the bid.

## Two 'Wetbacks' Arrested Here

Two Mexican "wetbacks" were taken into custody here last Friday night, August 17, while visiting friends in Torrance. They were taken into custody when police were called to quiet an argument.

Transferred to Terminal Island today to await deportation to Mexico were Jesus Rodriguez, 23, and Angelo Perez, 21. They had been employed in West Los Angeles.

## Water Bond Issue Hiked By \$300,000

Funds needed for the planned water bond issue under the original plans submitted by James R. Montgomery, water engineer, have been given a \$300,000 boost.

Original estimates of the water bond issue was \$1,500,000. Present estimated costs is \$1,836,340.

At a water bond meeting Monday night between members of the city council, City Manager George Stevens and Angus McVicar, acting water superintendent, Montgomery explained, that due to rise in labor and material costs, about \$300,000 more would be needed to see the original plans to completion.

Also under study at the present time is the possibility of placing on the same ballot consolidation of the three water districts and the bond issue. If this is possible, Torrance will vote on the bond issue for a water development program in October. If not, the entire bond issue might be jeopardized. The law firm of O'Melveny and Myers has been retained to study the matter. Decision is pending.

Improvements The proposed improvements and estimated cost of the water improvement program as outlined is as follows:

10-million gallon concrete reservoir	\$ 424,975
1-million gallon concrete reservoir	62,750
Booster pumping station	26,330
Water well at 226th street and Ocean avenue	19,200
24-inch feeder main	380,570
Cast iron distribution lines in North Torrance	257,350
Cast iron distribution lines in South Torrance	286,560
Miscellaneous piping revision, regulations etc.	57,140
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,514,875</b>
Contingencies, 10%	151,488
<b>Total construction cost</b>	<b>\$1,666,360</b>
Engineering, 6%	99,980
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,766,340</b>

Purchase of existing pipelines from Metropolitan Water District of Southern California 50,000

Purchase of reservoir 50,000

(Continued on Page 11)

## Torrance Community Chest Goal \$29,110

A tentative goal of \$29,110 was set for Torrance's 1951-52 Community Chest campaign at a meeting of local Chest chairman held Tuesday afternoon at the Torrance Community Chest Service Center, 1108 Sartori avenue.

This quota, nearly a 24 per cent increase over last year, will be sent to Harbor Area Chairman Noble Waite as Torrance's suggested part of the Harbor campaign.



**DOLLAR DAY PICKETING** . . . Bob Almond, manager of Strum's Department Store, 1261 Sartori avenue, gets all set to "picket" the store with the poster announcing this weekend's Dollar Day event. Oscar Strumwasser, owner of the store, helps Almond into his unique costume. For the benefit of budget-minded housewives, Torrance merchants are presenting three great Dollar Days today, tomorrow and Saturday, August 23, 24 and 25. Shoppers are reminded to take advantage of the great money-saving values and unique bargains which are being offered by the merchants during this three day sale. —Torrance Press photo.

## District Investigates Four New School Sites

The Torrance Unified School District administration was authorized by the School Board of Education Tuesday night to investigate for purchase negotiation four possible school sites.

In informing the Board of the location of the sites, Dr. J. H. Hull, school superintendent, stressed the necessity of the district's planning ahead for future schools, due to the extremely rapid growth of Torrance.

The possible school sites being investigated by the district are as follows: (1) Lots 55, 66, 67 and a portion of lot 45 of the La Fresa Tract between 171st and 168th streets; (2) the northwestern corner of lot 67 of the McDonald Tract at the corner of Arlington Avenue and 178th Street, 480 feet facing Arlington Avenue, and 900 feet facing 187th Street; (3) a portion of lot 2 of Meadow Park Tract between an extension of Lomita Boulevard on the south, 230th Street on the north, Ocean Avenue on the west, and a line 130 feet west of Hawthorne Boulevard.

In addition to the pictures and descriptive matter, the folder contains a map of the grounds to assist in locating the different departments and information relative to the facilities offered to the visitors.

## Keystone Man Kills Self With Bullet

A Spanish-American war hero and former school teacher ended his life at 7:45 a.m. Monday, August 20 by shooting himself in the mouth with a .32 calibre pistol, according to report on file with sheriff's officers.

The body of Jesse W. Craig, 74, of 2214 Dolores St., Keystone, was taken to the Cartwright Mortuary pending a coroner's investigation.

## Vote by People On Issue Asked

"No Parking Meters in Torrance." More than half of the names required to call for repeal of the recently adopted parking meter ordinance or for an election on the subject had been signed to referendum petitions being circulated in Torrance as the Press closed its forms for this edition last night.

## Board Hires 2 Elementary V-Principals

The School Board Tuesday night approved the employment of two elementary school vice principals for the school year, 1951-52, on a ten calendar month basis.

Hired were Wallace B. Magner, Jr., and Herman H. Schick. Magner will serve at the Torrance Elementary School and Schick, at Seaside Elementary School. They were employed at an annual salary of \$4,900.

## Recreation Summer Open House Tonight

Promising fun for all, the 1951 Summer Recreation Open House Program will open doors tonight at the Civic Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Featured on the two-hour program will be extensive craft exhibits, talent acts, presentation of service, softball, and swim awards, the coronation of the Playground King and Queen, and the showing of Lets Play, a 40-minute colored motion picture showing all phases of summer recreation activities.

## Costs of City Government Here Reported

Government costs for the city of Torrance during the two fiscal years of 1948-49 and 1949-50 amounted to \$1,799,472, according to an announcement by the California Taxpayers association. Torrance spent \$858,009 the first year and \$941,463 the second.

## NO PARKING METERS IN TORRANCE!

Attention—Voters of Torrance: Sign the referendum petitions giving you the right to vote on the parking meter question. Petitions will be on the streets of Torrance over the week-end. Find one, and sign it. Let's vote on the parking meter question. —No Parking Meters Committee

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Registered Voters Attention:

If you can spare some time securing signers to the referendum petition calling for an election on the parking meter question, please phone one of these numbers for information.

Torrance 150  
Torrance 1185

—No Parking Meters Committee

**—Dollar Days This Week-End... Shop Here!—**