

\$100 PARK FEE PASSED

Second Hearing Needed

The City Council Tuesday night passed an ordinance designed to exact a park fee on all new developments here, despite the heated protests of two of the Councilmen.

The bill, which will not become a law until a second hearing is held on April 28, was recommended by the Torrance Recreation Commission for use in establishing a chain of small parks throughout the city.

Reasons Cited

At Tuesday's stormy session, Councilmen Nick Drale and Victor E. Benstead protested the bill for two reasons: 1. they contend that the bill is unfair, discriminatory, and improperly drawn up; 2. they charge that their three council colleagues are trying to ramrod the bill through the council. The measure calls for a \$100 per gross acre fee on all new housing tracts here.

Councilman Drale stated that when the bill originally appeared before the council on March 24, he had not received a copy of the ordinance for study. The measure died then, when it was discovered that a four-fifths vote was needed to pass it as an emergency ordinance.

Shoved Thru Council

He alleged that the bill is now being shoved through the council as a regular ordinance requiring only a two-thirds vote.

Mayor Mervin M. Schwab made repeated efforts to silence Drale's protest, interrupting him twice to force a vote.

Benstead declared that he could vote for the measure only if the council officially earmarked the funds for a swimming pool.

The Recreation Commission has announced plans to use the funds derived from the measure to procure eight new park sites at widely scattered points throughout Torrance.

Poor Maintenance

Benstead pointed out Tuesday night that the park facilities the city now has are not getting proper maintenance, and that it would be "ridiculous" to build additional parks at this time.

City Manager George Stevens said after the meeting that it was very likely that the funds would never be used for parks any way. He pointed out that the Council alone can spend the money, and that the legislative body might decide that better use can be found for the funds at a later date.

Chamber to Issue New Guide Soon

The 1953-54 edition of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce Buyers Guide and Business Directory will be off the presses by the end of July, it was announced today by Dale Isenberg, executive secretary of the Chamber.

Chamber employees are busy compiling data on all local businesses, including the new telephone numbers, which will be effective on May 31.

Isenberg pointed out that the list of new telephone numbers will be especially valuable since the telephone company will not issue a new directory until next October.



RECREATION CONFERENCE—Arthur F. Sues, left, chairman of the Citizens' Committee for Better Recreation, and E. J. Robinson, president of the Pacific Hills Homeowners Association, compare notes following the meeting of the homeowners group Monday. Sues, principal speaker at the meeting, told the group of the Citizens' Committee plan for improving recreation here under a joint city-school program. He received unanimous support of the organization.

Homeowners Hail New Recreation Plan

Members and officers of the Pacific Hills Homeowners Association Monday night unanimously endorsed the joint city-school recreation program being sponsored by the Citizens' Committee for Better Recreation.

Arthur F. Sues, chairman of the Citizens' Committee, was principal speaker at Monday's general membership meeting of the organization.

Sues, a former recreation director, has spearheaded a drive to institute a joint recreation program that would combine the funds and facilities of both the schools and the city to provide adequate recreation for Torrance children, youths and adults.

No Bond Issue

Pointing out that by using the excellent park and playground facilities owned now by both agencies under a school-administered program this city can have a first-rate recreation program without floating a bond issue that would put the city into debt for years.

Sues declared a year-round program, providing after-school, week-end and summer vacation recreation throughout the city can only be achieved if both the city and the schools pool their resources in a well-planned, well-executed set-up administered by the schools.

Industrial Support

Hitting hard at so-called "recreation experts" who contend that grassy parks constitute a recreation program, Sues told the homeowners that spending fabulous sums of money for more parks would not bring recreation to the city, and would only add to the tax bill here. He indicated that the major industries of this city have expressed favor for the joint city-school plan.

Top school administrators have

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TORRANCE PRESS

The Fastest Growing Community Newspaper in America
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ALDEN PLEADS GUILTY TO THEFT OF FUNDS

Growing with Torrance

(AN EDITORIAL)

This edition of the Torrance Press marks the beginning of its fifth year of service to the people of the community and surrounding area.

As we change our folio to Volume V, Number 1, we renew our pledge to you, our readers and advertisers, that we will constantly strive to improve our newspaper to meet the demands of the expanding area.

Population Doubles

When the Torrance Press was established the population of Torrance and area was about half what it is today. We adopted the controlled circulation system, and the little merchant plan, guaranteeing that each home in the area which we serve, including Torrance, Lomita, the Shoestring strip, Keystone and adjacent territory, would receive a Torrance Press every week.

We have continued that policy, and as each of the thousands of new homes has been completed and occupied, the owner started receiving the Torrance Press.

Keep Step

The staff of the Torrance Press has grown as our advertising lineage, circulation and service to the community has grown, and we assure the merchants and residents of the area that we will keep step with the expansion of the greater Torrance area.

It makes our job a happy one, when we hear from our advertisers that they are getting the greater results from Torrance Press advertising than from any other newspaper. It makes us glad when we hear from our readers their remarks of appreciation for the fact that the "whole story" at last can be told by a newspaper dedicated to revealing all the news.

Road of Progress

Yes, we are grateful to the merchants and our readers for the reception that this newspaper has had on the road of progress.

Every member of our staff and our 65 newspapers are pledged to give this community the best newspaper in Southern California.

Propose Ideco Plant For Civic Center Site

A proposal to purchase the now-idle Ideco plant on Carson st., near Plaza del Amo, for use as a civic center was made this week.

The suggestion came from the group of merchants who are protesting the city's plan to move civic center to a site on Torrance Blvd.

The Council's intention to procure a 30-acre site on Torrance Blvd., near Madrona ave., has met with both opposition and support from different factions in the city.

The downtown merchants circulated a petition opposing the move on the basis that the business section would suffer.

A group of citizens living near the proposed site circulated petitions supporting the proposed move. Both petitions were presented to the council Tuesday night.

Meeting Set
The council has agreed to meet with a committee of downtown businessmen to discuss the situation, but did not halt proceedings to acquire the 30 acres on Torrance Blvd.

Meanwhile, Councilman Nick Drale has promised to investigate the possibility of using the Ideco plant for an expanded civic center. He informed the Press that the

Rubber Workers To Donate Blood

Torrance Red Cross volunteers will assist bloodmobile technicians in a blood collection visit to Midland Rubber Corp., 19201 S. Vermont, on April 29, it was reported today by Mrs. Gordon Jones, press chairman.

The next bloodmobile unit to be located at the Torrance Civic Auditorium is slated for Monday, June 8, from 3 to 7:30 p.m. Persons wishing to donate blood at that time are urged to call Torrance 3447 for an appointment.



PLEADS GUILTY—Joseph R. Alden, manager of National Supply Co.'s credit union, Tuesday entered a plea of guilty to alleged embezzlement of \$7628 from the credit union. Alden, right, is shown in the custody of Torrance Police Officer James Thompson, prior to his appearance in court.

Republicans to Hear Foreign Policy Speech

Members of the 68th District Republican Assembly will play host to the entire Los Angeles County Republican Assembly at a dinner meeting to be held in the American Legion Hall in Torrance on Wednesday, April 22, at 7 p.m., according to announcement by Frank S. Selover, executive vice-president of the 68th Assembly, and chairman of dinner arrangements.

Dr. Robert Neumann, professor of political science of the University of California at Los Angeles, will be speaker. His topic will be "Our Foreign Policy." Dr. Neumann is one of the top lecturers.

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Trial Set Tuesday; Theft Suspect Held

EX-CONVICT ARRAIGNED

William McNally, 25-year-old ex-convict and former National Supply Co. time-keeper, who voluntarily surrendered to Torrance Police in connection with the \$30,000 robbery of Joe Alden, was arraigned Tuesday in South Bay Municipal Court. His preliminary hearing has been set for next Tuesday, according to the police.

Sought for Questioning

Recognized by a local bartender, McNally was persuaded to turn himself over to the police, who have sought him for questioning in the robbery case.

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GRAND THEFT CHARGE SET

Joseph R. Alden, manager of the National Supply Company's employees' credit union, whose books allegedly showed a shortage of \$7,628, entered a plea of guilty Tuesday to one count of grand theft and was instructed to appear in Superior Court on April 28 for trial, according to the Torrance Police Dept.

"Another Woman"

A complaint against Alden was filed by the governing board of the employees' group on Monday. Alden has remained in Torrance jail since last Thursday, when he first confessed to taking credit union funds for "household expenses, whiskey and another woman."

Alden a 35-year-old Lomita resident appeared before Judge John A. Shider of the South Bay Municipal Court for arraignment. He waived preliminary hearing and entered his plea, it was disclosed. The embezzlement charge was

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Name Paul Diamond To Chamber Board

Paul Diamond, owner of the Gay Shop, has been named to fill the vacancy on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, it was announced following the board meeting last Monday. The vacancy was created by the death of Grover Whyte.

Diamond will serve out the remainder of the term, which ends in January, 1954.

A past president and active member of the Torrance Lions Club, Diamond has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce since 1945, and has been active in the Retail Merchants Division of the organization.

In other action Monday, the directors resolved to urge the California Motor Vehicle Department to take steps to establish a department office in Torrance to serve the entire South Bay area.

The closest office now is located in Long Beach, it was pointed out. The board will also urge the state department of highways to widen Hawthorne Blvd. to a four-lane thoroughfare all the way through Torrance, and to take measures to eliminate the traffic hazard that now exists at the intersection of Hawthorne Blvd. and 190th St.



PAUL DIAMOND
... new director.

TV Set Sold In 'Minutes'

"In only a matter of minutes after the Torrance Press was distributed last Thursday morning, I had sold the television set I had advertised in the Press classified section," reported Mrs. Mark Weiss of 2414 W. 248th st., Lomita.

"I am so pleased with the fine results I got, that I had to call and tell you," she added.

Mrs. Weiss is one of the many Torrance area residents who have proved the powerful results of Torrance Press classified ads.

This is the small, inexpensive ad that sold Mrs. Weiss's TV set:

PHILCO television, 12 1/2-inch screen, \$40, 2424 West 248th st., Lomita 303-M

If you want to buy something, sell something, hire a cook, or trade a car, you can do it through Torrance Press Classifieds—the Market Place of Thousands. Call Torrance 1185.



BEAUTY CONTESTANTS—Seven of the Keystone-Carson area's loveliest lassies pose smilingly for photographer. The girls are entered in the beauty contest being sponsored by the Carson Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the Chamber's Annual Spring Carnival, slated for May 22, 23 and 24. A complete summer wardrobe awaits the girls who cope the title "Queen of the Teens" in the competition. Above, left to right: Sylvia Read, Carol Clanton, Willa Spears, Doris Perry, Marlene Mills, Jackie Urbes and Janice Sharyer.