

2400 Homes Involved

TRACT WATER RIGHTS ISSUE RESOLVED

COUNCIL VOTE SPLIT

With the Dominguez Water company virtually assured of 10-year water servicing rights to the huge Milton Kaufman tract, the last condition has been removed from the 2400-home project planned by the Milton Kaufman Corporation at 190th street and Hawthorne boulevard.

In the absence of Councilman Victor Benstead, who is away on his vacation, the City Council split 2-2 Tuesday night over the issue of granting the Dominguez Water company the right to service the nearly 400-acre tract for 10 years.

Decisive Vote

Councilman Benstead's vote is expected to favor such an arrangement, since he voted his approval at a previous hearing of this matter.

Ten Years

The present provision calls for a 10-year program as of the date the agreement is signed, regardless of how few or how many homes are developed in the area. Councilman Nick Draie who, together with Mayor Mervin Schwab, voted in favor of the agreement, did so on the basis that the Torrance Municipal Water Department would not feel the loss of this area for 10 years since the department would have all the business it could handle with the enormous growth of the city being what it is. Councilman Draie felt that the water service might even be endangered.

Against

Councilman Willys Blount, who together with Councilman Harvey Spelman, voted against the (Continued on Page 14)

Kuchel Takes Note of P.O. Matter

A letter confirming that California Senator Thomas H. Kuchel has taken interest in the local postoffice situation was received this week by the Torrance Press.

Free From Politics

The senator believes "in a sound system of civil service free from politics" and "will follow this course in the case of the Torrance postoffice." Howard H. Schmidt, legislative assistant to Senator Kuchel, wrote on behalf of the senator, who has been traveling in the state constantly.

Schmidt stated that the senator "will be interested in the facts disclosed in your newspaper." Schmidt stated that Assistant Postmaster Abrams' interest in the local situation as well as the letter submitted by the Torrance Press will be called to Senator Kuchel's attention.

More Complaints

Meanwhile complaints against the local postoffice increased to include late deliveries of time-value matter—that is, service club and church announcements, especially in regard to information concerning meetings. Poor parcel post deliveries, lateness in the distribution of mail to postoffice boxes, and failure to clear all first class mail each day, have also been complained of.

Other complaints include (Continued on Page 14)

Serving . . .
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VOLUME V

Thursday, October 29, 1953 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

119

No. 30

TORRANCE PRESS

Conveniently Located at 1406 Cravens Avenue — Phone FAirfax 8-2345

Member of
Circulation
Newspapers of
America
100,000
READERS

Juvenile Thief Caught In Same Trap



"HAVEN'T WE MET BEFORE?" . . . It's about time again for ghosts, goblins, and spooks of all sorts to come out of hibernation. Saturday, October 31, is Halloween, you know! Of course it's a cinch to see that this particular ghost is none other than Mrs. Wm. C. Coats and the other whatchamacallit is Mrs. Wade Bridges. The ladies, who are employed at Newberry's, became rather involved in their work. —Press Photo

Boy Commits Series of Burglaries

One juvenile has been arrested and another one is still being sought for a series of petty burglaries committed in this area within the last six months.

A 15-year-old boy was caught this week in the act of burglarizing a Walteria home from which, ironically enough, he had stolen \$132 last year which also resulted in his arrest at that time, according to Detective Captain Ernie Ashton.

Admits Burglaries

The youth, who was caught at the home of Stanley Watts, 4037 Bluff St., last week, admitted burglarizing this area for the past six months and identified six North Torrance homes which he had broken into, in addition to a home in Inglewood, Redondo Beach, and the Shoestring Strip. At present the boy is in the custody of the juvenile bureau since he assured Captain Ashton that he would "disappear" at the first opportunity he had.

Link Burglaries

Two recent North Torrance burglaries have been linked with the activities of the arrested youth who is thought to have worked with someone else.

The home of Gene Luce, 2822 Redondo Beach Blvd., was entered (Continued on Page 14)

New Torrance Chest Will Contact Residents

Torrance Civic Betterment League, devoted to civic problems covering all of Torrance and interested in impartially serving the Torrance City Council will hold its first meeting tonight at 8 p.m. in the court room of the City Hall at Craven and El Prado. All interested are invited to attend.

Forrest J. Major, of 17615 Yukon, who has undertaken to organize this group, said that the purpose behind it is to gather civic-minded individuals together who would form committees which would render thorough reports to the City Council on matters the Council must deal with but does not always have time to investigate sufficiently. The group is also to bring the needs of the whole community to the (Continued on Page 13)

Chest Will Contact Residents

Over 500 Community Chest volunteer workers of Torrance will be on the march come next Monday, November 2. This is the day the residential division of Torrance's Community Chest team will go into its one-day fund-raising campaign in search of the city's \$15,496 Community Chest goal.

The \$15,496 goal in Torrance is part of the \$82,664 goal assigned to the Harbor Area for this campaign. This \$82,664 quota must be raised in the Harbor Area to insure the success of the Community Chest in reaching its 1953 goal of \$8,754,000.

Pre-Kickoff Meeting

At a pre-kickoff meeting, held at the Torrance YWCA this week, the seven division chairmen of the city's residential campaign heard an address by their (Continued on Page 13)

Recreation Department Sponsors 'Halloween Hop'

On Halloween the Torrance Municipal Auditorium, corner Cravens and El Prado, will become like a scene from one of the latest horror comic magazines. The Torrance Teen-agers are holding a costume ball there that evening. There will be free favors and refreshments served to all attending, and the tickets of admission will be only a membership card in the Torrance Teen-Agers Club. Sal Frisina and his Starlighters will supply the music for the evening dancing; and a whole host of goblins, witches, devils, dancing girls will (Continued on Page 14)

POLICE ISSUE DRAGS; NEW DECISION ASKED



IN FULL DRESS AND WITH THEIR COLORS FLYING the Torrance Mounted Police Unit, 22 strong, was seen in an inspection parade Saturday at El Prado Park. Here City Manager George Stevens presents the city flag to Al Lapan. From left to right, on foot, are: Assistant Chief Wm. Haslam, Chief of Police John (Continued on Page 14)

Stroh, City Manager George Stevens, Civil Defense Director George Powell. Mounted (l-r) are: Virgil Bolles, Police Sgt. D. C. Cook, Al Lapan, and Captain "Andy" Alexander. The U. S. flag was presented by the American Legion with the VFW presenting the California flag. —Press Photo

Captain, Asst. Chief Qualify

After submitting its recommendation concerning the controversial police chief succession to the City Council, the Civil Service Board had the matter dropped into its lap again.

Councilman Willys Blount sent the recommendation back on the grounds that a new ordinance had superseded the one on which the Civil Service recommendation was based.

Who Eligible

The latest ordinance (No. 588) makes the assistant chief and captain eligible for taking the examination for police chief. The former ordinance (No. 478) called for the top position to be filled by the next in rank, which would have been the assistant chief in this case.

Heated Controversy

A heated city council controversy has raged within recent weeks as to whether the soon to be vacated position of police chief should be filled from within the ranks or whether the promotional examination should be open to all eligible applicants.

Councilmen Victor Benstead and Nick Draie favored promotions from within on the grounds that anything but this would be unfair to members of the police force who have been working for promotions. Opening the exams would threaten all incentive. Councilmen Willys Blount and Harvey Spelman voted for an open examination in order to get the "best qualified man."

Mayor Mervin Schwab's vote still hangs in the balance pending "further study" though for (Continued on Page 4)

Court Action Called for by Smog Measure

Giving the proper authorities the right to take smog violators to court and investigating the large industries first and then the smaller ones was declared this week to be the substance of the anti-smog ordinance being considered by the city of Torrance.

Resolution and Ordinance

A resolution submitted last week to the executive board of the League of California Cities by Councilmen Victor Benstead and Nick Draie at the San Francisco convention contained the above provisions which were said to be in line with a Torrance anti-smog ordinance now being considered.

The Draie-Benstead resolution

calls attention to the fact that medical research has branded smog as a health menace. Legal provisions must be made, the resolution indicates, so that smog violators can be hauled into court as is the case with every other type of violator.

Big Industry First

While the resolution commends certain major industries—particularly Columbia Steel—for having spent several thousands of dollars for installing smog precipitators, it calls for strict investigation first of the large industries to be followed by an investigation of smaller industries and the lesser sources of smog.

Torrance Singled Out

Provisions of the resolution were born out by a subsequent KTLA radio broadcast last Saturday which dealt with the smog problem. At that time Torrance was singled out in particular as a heavy contributor to "The Big Stink."

The big industries must be controlled first, it was stated, and the need for legal recourse was emphasized.

COUNT TO TOP 40,000 POPULATION

At the request of the City Council, a Special Federal Census will be started during the week beginning November 2, 1953, to officially determine the present population of the City of Torrance. It is believed that the special (Continued on Page 4)

will establish the population of the city as being in excess of 40,000.

The actual census survey will start Thursday, November 5, which is a week from today. Residents in this area who will not be home that day are requested to leave a sealed envelope near the door to be picked up by the canvasser. The envelope should contain the following information: (1) full name of the head of the house; (2) full name of all residents, including roomers and patients; (3) the relationship of the individuals to the head of the house; (4) age and sex of the individual.

May Get Court

With the establishment of an official population in excess of 40,000, the city will have provided the basic requirement for obtaining a Municipal Court for Torrance. Help in bringing a court to this city has been promised. (Continued on Page 4)

Torrance To Protest P.V. Project

Representatives of the city of Torrance, including City Manager George Stevens, will attend today's meeting at the County Board of Supervisors to put in a partial protest against the proposed dicalite plant in Palos Verdes and to obtain further information about the project in order to know what final stand to take in the matter, it was revealed at Tuesday night's City Council meeting.

The city wants to assure itself if the plant goes in, that trucks will not use city residential areas for thoroughfares.

Petitions

The Torrance-Lomita Realty Board, which has approximately 100 petitions circulating protesting the establishment of such a plant, received a letter from Supervisor Burton W. Chace stating that he would not commit himself until the hearing.

A spokesman for the Pacific Hills Homeowners Association said that dust, drainage water, (Continued on Page 4)

Halloween Spooks Beware!

"If in doubt, don't do it!" That is the gist of the warning issued to all Halloween spooks this week by Police Chief John Stroh.

Chief Stroh warns all kids that the police will be out in full force Halloween night. Parents of the kids as well as the kids themselves will be held fully responsible for all malicious mischief caused.

Members Hear Noted Designer

Rose Marie Reid, noted designer of bathing suits, together with one of her lovely models, enlightened those attending the semi-annual dinner of the Joint Service Clubs of Torrance on the subject of next spring's bathing suit fashions.

Presidents Roy Peterson of the Lions club; Jack Dabbs, Rotary; Frank S. Selover, Civitan; Chris Sorenson, Optimist, and Charles Ragsdale were introduced at the dinner held at the Allen Richard hall.

Rotary was the host-club for this affair with Jack Dabbs, president, acting as chairman, and Willys Blount as master-of-ceremonies.

Approximately 200 members of the five service clubs attended.

She Thought It Couldn't Happen . . .

"I never thought it could happen to me!" exclaimed Mrs. Dave Murphy, full of excitement as she phoned the Torrance Press.

It seemed obvious that Mrs. Murphy of 1848 Marinette had either been chosen Queen for a Day, that she had Struck it Rich, or had been the winner of some talent show.

"I always read the result stories in your paper every week and then I placed this ad with you . . . and I sold everything . . . just as the result stories said!" Mrs. Murphy squealed delightfully.

A few words, costing only 75 cents, said all that was needed to get such good results:

FOR SALE: Table top stove, Reconditioned washer. Good condition. \$15 each. 1848 Marinette, Torrance.

There's no reason why this can't happen to you. Call the Torrance Press and place your ad in the Press Classified section.



CONSTRUCTION OF 300 HOMES was launched last week when officials broke ground for a new \$3,500,000 home tract at Sepulveda and Madrona. From left to right are: David Hirsch, vice-president of Hirsch-Victory Enterprises, Inc.; Clement Hirsch, president; Ward (Continued on Page 14)

Koyen, secretary-treasurer; Bob Haggard, local realtor, who, together with Howard Percy, (extreme right), handled acquisition of the property for the developers; Sylvester Morning, vice-president; and Harold Hensgen, vice-president. —Press Photo

City Gets Armory