



## ASSEMBLY SAYS 'O.K.'

# \$15 Million Shopping Center Slated For Torrance Airport

A bill which will pave the way for a \$15,000,000 commercial development on the southeast corner of the Torrance Municipal Airport was passed this week without a dissenting vote by the California State Assembly.

A telegram from Assemblyman Vincent Thomas informed the Torrance Press of the bill's passage.

The measure is now headed

for the Senate and observers believe that no opposition will arise from those quarters.

It has been stated that the commercial development would involve a regular business center with a chain drug store, a restaurant, a department store, shoe store, and other stores. Torrance would receive \$200,000 in sales tax from this center, it was disclosed.

Assembly Bill No. 19, introduced in the 1954 special session

of the Legislature by Assemblyman Vincent Thomas, and included on the agenda by the governor, would extend the city's leasing powers on city property from 25 years to 50 years.

A savings and loan spokesman from Long Beach interested in the site told city officials that they could not amortize their investment on less than a 50-year lease.

City Request  
The bill was introduced by

Thomas at the city's request. City Attorney James M. Hall flew to Sacramento last week to present the city's problem to the Committee on Municipal and County Government.

Proposed Change  
Assembly Bill No. 19 would add a section to the Government Code stating:

"37395. A City may lease for 50 years property owned or held or controlled by it, or any of its departments, when not re-

quired for other city purposes, for planned commercial development consisting of retail store buildings, parking facilities, and retail outlets of various kinds for retail use."

City Attorney Hall also spoke on behalf of traffic improvements on Pacific Highway from the Lomita boundary to Redondo Beach. The city formally requested that the entire length be divided and that left turn lanes and other safety features be provided.

## Huge 2300 Home Project Sets Building Pace

Construction of the first 450 of a total 2300 homes to be located at Hawthorne ave. and 190th St. has finally begun. It was announced this week by Milton Kauffman Construction Corporation.

Included in the \$30,000,000

### Mercantile Negotiations To Continue

Negotiations on the Mercantile agreement and Drug agreement between Retail Clerks Local 905 and the Harbor Area Employers Council, which came to a temporary halt Tuesday, will be resumed this week, according to a joint statement issued by Frank S. Selover, executive secretary of the Employers' Council, and Ben N. Scott, acting secretary-treasurer of Local 905.

The negotiations were terminated by Herschel Womack, International Representative of the clerks. Selover said, when the druggists refused to agree to an "improvement factor" in-

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### ANTI-RABIES PROGRAM NO EXTRA COST

Cost of a compulsory anti-rabies vaccination program is no higher than what is now being spent in combating a actual and suspected cases of rabies, figures from the Los Angeles County Health Department revealed.

In Torrance alone, one human being and 15 dogs died a dreadful rabies' death within the last 10 years. Painful Pasteur treatments, the only safeguard against rabies, had to be given

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project are two different shopping centers, two parks, and schools. The Dominguez Land Company from whom the 450-acre site was purchased in the middle of last year, is handling plans for the shopping centers.

Consideration is still being given to the extent and location of such centers. Complete shopping facilities will be provided, it was disclosed.

Approximately four and a half acres have been set aside for a proposed park, and four and two-tenths acres for another proposed park.

The subdividers, the County Sanitation District, and the Union Carbide Corp., which is located across Hawthorne ave. from the tract may all participate in bringing a trunk sewer line in to serve the area.

Curbs, gutters, sidewalks, base and paving will be constructed in accordance with the subdivision ordinance.

All homes will be under \$12,000 with no down payments required of veterans, it was announced.

The area is bordered by Hawthorne, Beryl, 190th St., and Del Amo.

The Kauffman organization

### Pow! Right Where It Counts...

Two eager parties stormed the home of Mrs. R. L. Meek of 1619 W. 203rd street first thing Thursday morning in order to grab the bedroom set which she had advertised in the Torrance Press classified section.

It was practically necessary to flip a coin to determine the "victor."

Mrs. Meek's ad read as follows:

FOR SALE—3-piece bedroom set. Old but good. \$15. PA. 8-7870

You can't go wrong if you place an ad in the Torrance Press classified section. You'll get your results. If you get swamped with calls, don't say we didn't warn you!

has been one of the leading developers of homes in the Los Angeles area since 1906, having built more than 10,000 homes in the last ten years in the L.A. area.

### C of C Plans County Fair, Beauty Contes

It was definitely decided this week to hold a Miss Torrance Beauty Contest in conjunction with the county fair planned for August, according to the Junior and Senior Chambers of Commerce.

The contest will be partly a beauty contest and partly a "popularity" contest. Finalists will be determined according to who sells the most tickets. However, the queen will be

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### 'Little Merchant Plan' Used For Press Distribution

Torrance Press carrier boys are in business for themselves. They are given the newspapers, a delivery route, and the opportunity to develop habits of industry and responsibility.

You are entitled to a free delivery of the Torrance Press. If you wish, you may pay the paper boy for his services. What he receives, he keeps.

The sum you give him shows your appreciation of his careful service and is his compensation.

Each carrier is required to give a receipt for the sum you give him.

The amount you give him is optional. You are entitled to receive your copy of the Torrance Press whether you pay or not and regardless of how much you pay.

# TORRANCE PRESS

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# 4 BOND ISSUES ENDORSED BY INDUSTRIES TAX GROUP

## VOTERS TO ACT ON \$1,400,000 BONDS

Four city bond issues totaling \$1,400,000 were endorsed by the Torrance Industries Tax Committee Tuesday, according to Reed H. Parkin, chairman.

Approval was given after City Manager George Stevens explained the need for the improvements called for by the bonds.

The four propositions to appear on the April 13 ballot include a \$250,000 swimming pool; \$700,000 new civic center and police station; \$300,000 fire station; and \$150,000 for recreation facilities.

The present city hall and police station were designed for

a city for less than half the present population, Stevens told the group. As a result, he pointed out, the deficiency of many departments is being impaired for lack of adequate space.

This holds true in regard to the other bond issues as well. The Torrance Industries Tax Committee is composed of representatives of most of the large manufacturing facilities here which carry the greater share of the municipal tax burden.



FRANK BURK  
More . . .



ROBERT EVANS  
council . . .



JACK WHITE  
. . . candidates

### Lomita Blvd. Extension Approved

Extension of 255th Street in Lomita from its present terminus through to Walnut Street has been approved by the County Road Department, it was disclosed by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

### 2 Appointed To Recreation Commission

J. H. Paget, manager of Newberry's, and Mrs. A. E. Collins, of North Torrance, were appointed to the Recreation Commission by unanimous vote of the City Council this week following the resignation of B. F. Johnson and the pending resignation of A. J. Patrinsky.

### 3 Areas To Get Play Program

Three areas will be given a full-time recreation program through the joint efforts of the Recreation Department and the Board of Education, it was disclosed this week.

Such a program will be set up at Seaside and Waveria elementary schools and at McMaster's Park.

The Board of Education unanimously agreed to let the City Recreation Department organize an after-school, Saturday, and holiday recreation program at the two schools as of April 12. This program will be the same as the recent pilot program at the Perry School.

The program at Torrance High School on the other hand will be canceled as of April 23.

The reason for this reorganization of the recreation program is to permit the greatest use of the limited recreation funds and serve the whole community, according to Harry Van Bellehem, recreation director.

The program at McMaster's Park will start Monday, March 22. It will run five days a week, Monday through Friday, from noon to 9 p.m. Les Breitenfeldt will supervise the program at the park.

Parents who have children can now send their children to the

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### 3 MONTHS' COMA ENDS



"Hi, Mom; Hi, Dad" . . . These were the first words Freddie Burmester, 15, uttered when he awoke for the first time last week after a deep, unbroken coma which lasted 3 whole months. Freddie, who lives at 22529 South Figueroa, was critically injured when he fell off a motorcycle which he had repaired. There will be no permanent injuries, Henry Burmester (r), father of the boy, said.

### We Need A Community Coordinating Council

By Mrs. Patricia Elliott, Guest Editor

(In order to air our civic needs, the Torrance Press is running a series of weekly editorials written by people of the community. Editorials may be submitted by anyone. All manuscripts become the property of the Torrance Press. We welcome ideas on any subject, controversial or otherwise. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publishers.)

Many times I have heard one or another person in Torrance say, "Why don't they do something about this or that." Well the problems are our problems and we must work together to solve them.

On Tuesday, March 9 a group of interested people met together to discuss the formation of a Community Coordinating Council. It was agreed that Torrance has "growing pains" and that there is a definite need for more unity here. Some means is needed of promoting better cooperation and coordination of efforts among the many fine civic groups, social agencies, service and social clubs, schools, churches, etc., of Torrance.

We all have a stake in the welfare of not only our own children but of all the children and youth in the community. With a council we can meet together and discuss what is right and what is wrong with our community and what the average citizen can do about the needs. We can decide what action is indicated. By pooling our efforts and our resources a great deal more can be accomplished.

Our next meeting is set for Tuesday, March 30 at 8 p.m. at the YMCA. We are inviting all who wish to attend this meeting to come and to participate.

Community Coordinating Councils are operating successfully in 96 other cities in Los Angeles County. We too can make it work for Torrance!

## Council Candidates Reply..

In an open letter published by this newspaper last week, the Torrance Press invited candidates running for City Council to state their position in regard to the local building scandal. The following replies were received:

**WILLIS BLOUNT**

In reply to your invitation to answer an editorial appearing in a recent issue of your newspaper, titled "An Open Letter," it appears that a restatement of the facts surrounding the investigation of Tract No. 18540, which resulted in the suspension of the employees of the City of Torrance, is in order.

Upon my recommendation, a group of citizens appeared before the City Council of the City of Torrance to air their complaints relative to certain defects in the homes they occupy in the above named tract. These people were heard by the City Council and by unanimous action of the Council certain investigations by agencies of the State of California were requested.

These investigations were made by officials of the State of California at the Council's request, and their findings indicated that the responsibility lay with the City's Building Department.

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**FRANK BURK**

This is in answer to the open letter referring to poorly constructed houses in Torrance. We, the people, can definitely lay the blame on our Building Inspection Department where plans should be checked over closely before issuing permits. The Department should also see to it that plans and the finished structure will come up to the building code.

If the inspection department finds discrepancies that are not covered by the city code, these should be brought before the City Council for amendment to the present code. This will give our inspectors tools to work with.

With proper cooperation between the City Council and the Building Department, our future homes and the reputation of Torrance will be insured against this recurrence.

We, the people of Torrance,

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**ALBERT ISEN**

I read with great interest your "Open Letter" to the candidates for the City Council in the March 11th issue of the Torrance Press, with reference to the charges which have been brought against the City of Torrance and its building department. You are to be commended for bringing this matter to the attention of the public.

You ask the candidates to make a thorough investigation of the charges and determine to our own satisfaction the merit of the charges; then to state in writing what steps should be taken and if elected, would take to correct such conditions. I am happy to answer your request.

As of today, all of the facts about the situation are not yet known or available, even to the City officials. It takes more than a few days to make a

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**HERMA TILLIM**

I wish to thank the Torrance Press for its public spirit in the investigation of the housing situation in Torrance. But for you the problem would not have been brought to public attention.

You have asked me what I would do in this particular instance. When all of the evidence is in I shall be able to decide. I have started my private investigation in to all of the facts. Such an investigation has taken the Press many months and I would be false to my pledge if I should sit in judgment after four days investigation.

I am offering my services to the City of Torrance and will not fail in my pledge to investigate both sides of each question before I recommend action.

(signed) HERMA TILLIM  
No answers were received from ROBERT F. EVANS, ALVIN K. HILL, and JACK E. WHITE at press time.

# EVERYBODY'S DOING IT! DO IT YOURSELF

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