

SCHOOL BOARD ASKS CITY COUNCIL TO DROP CONSOLIDATION MOVE

Members of the Board of Education hoped to nip a move to consolidate school board and city council elections in the bud with a lengthy resolution listing the reason why such consolidation is unwise.

Board members appeared worried and unhappy over the possibility that the City Council might place a proposed charter amendment on the ballot calling for such consolidation.

The matter is scheduled for City Council consideration Tuesday, January 10, at 8 p.m. If the council favors placing the issue on the ballot, the voters will decide on it in April.

Members of the board sifted some 23 written rea-

sons why consolidation is a bad thing submitted by Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, and agreed to include the following points in the resolution:

1. The voters of Torrance decided on this identical issue seven years ago at which time they voted to separate school and city elections.
2. There has been no demand from local residents requesting the consolidation of the elections, to the knowledge of the board.
3. It would still be necessary that separate elections be held for the El Camino college elections.
4. Change in election dates would interfere with the administration of the fiscal year.

5. Cost of separate school elections is a fraction of what the cost would be if combined with municipal elections. The city has 109 precincts to finance and rent and pay for personnel. The school consolidation by using the plants, pays no rent, and has only 20 precincts. The last city election (with only 68 precincts) cost \$17,230.74. School elections until now cost less than \$1000 per election.
6. Every voter gets official notice of elections (this point is meant to refute the claim that school elections are unrepresentative).
7. The vast majority of school districts in Cali-

fornia run their own elections on the third Friday in May as does Torrance.

8. A total of 113 school board elections will be held in May, 1956, separate and apart from municipal elections. Only eight school districts consolidate elections with city elections.

"It is resolved unanimously," the resolution concludes, "that elections remain as they are and that no particular purpose be served by changing them."

An official poll of the Torrance City Council a few weeks ago indicated that the council was unanimously in favor of consolidating elections.

Two major reasons were given: 1) to save money and 2) to make school elections more representative.

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Board of Supervisors Approves Long Fought-for Local Court

NEW CIVIC CENTER SITE OF COURT

The jubilant spirit of victory led the council chamber Tuesday night, as Councilmen Nick Draie and Willys Blount returned triumphant from a meeting with the Board of Supervisors bearing glad tidings of a new municipal court for Torrance.

The court will be a branch of the South Bay Municipal Court in Redondo and will be located on the new Torrance civic center site at Maple and Torrance Blvd.

Resolution for the establishment of such a court was introduced by Supervisor Burton W. Chace and unanimously approved by the other supervisors.

The court will serve Waveria, Lomita, and the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Chace also was successful in obtaining the board's approval for the inclusion of funds in the county's forthcoming budget for the construction of a building to house the new court.

The court was obtained through a concerted community effort, including the support of numerous clubs and organizations, a spearheading special citizens committee headed by Boris Woolley, and repeated editorial support of the Torrance Press.

Councilmen Draie and Blount appeared before the Board of Supervisors Tuesday in order to make certain that the numerous resolutions passed by various bodies would come to the direct attention of the supervisors, as well as to plead personally on behalf of the court.

Both councilmen praised the active support of Supervisors Kenneth Hahn and Chace in particular.



ATTENDING ground-breaking ceremonies for the new Thriftmart at Sepulveda boulevard and Palos Verdes road yesterday were (l-r): Paul Loranger, Chamber president; Walter Bollenbacher and Louis L. Kelton, leading home builders and owners of the new improvement; Roger M. Laverty, Jr., Thriftmart real estate manager; and Mayor Albert Isen. Press Photo.

1956 Licenses Now Available

License plates for 1956 may now be obtained at the local Department of Motor Vehicles, 1317 Cravens ave. (next to the telephone co.). License renewal period will end February 4.

258 Additional Businesses Here

There are 258 more business concerns in Torrance today than there were seven years ago, according to the November Dun & Bradstreet reference book. A total of 339 businesses were listed in 1948. Today there are 597 enterprises, representing a 76% increase.

NEW POLIO SHOTS START JANUARY 9

Free polio shots for children in kindergarten, first and fourth grades, will be given starting Monday, January 9, according to Dr. B. A. Kogan, local district health officer for the Los Angeles County Health Department.

Shots are being made available under terms of an act passed by Congress, providing federal funds for the program.

Shots will be given to children in both public and parochial schools, according to Dr. Kogan. Children will receive two shots, with the date for the second shot to be announced. Consent slips will be required.

New Year's Baby Receives Valuable Gifts

Winners of the New Year's baby contest and recipients of hundreds of dollars worth of prizes donated by local merchants are Mr. and Mrs. Melvin P. Crawford, 18013 Osage, Torrance, whose baby reportedly is the first New Year's baby born within the circulation area of the Torrance Press.

The baby girl, Leslie Ann, was born at Centinella Valley Community Hospital, at 12:27 a.m., January 1, weighing 8 lbs. 14 oz. This is the Crawford's first baby. The baby was three weeks overdue, having been expected December 10.

Crawford is an IBM operator at Hughes Aircraft. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Crawford, Sr., of 3809 W. 180th place, Torrance. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ecklenrode, Carrolltown, Pennsylvania.

Winning a six-piece set of child's silverware from Allen Pewelers for having the last

Thriftmart Breaks Ground in Torrance

Settlement of the rock and gravel strike was the signal for ground breaking for the new \$500,000 supermarket construction project at Sepulveda boulevard and Palos Verdes road in Torrance yesterday with civic officials participating in the event and luncheon that followed at the Palms Restaurant.

Thriftmart, conservative modern in design and masonry in construction, will provide new employment opportunities for the area and serve thousands of families who have purchased new homes in the immediate vicinity in recent years.

Walter Bollenbacher and Louis L. Kelton, Los Angeles, two of the nation's leading home builders, are owners of the new improvement; Hahn-St. John, Hawthorne, is general contractor; H. W. Underhill, Los Angeles, architect, with Roger M. Laverty, Jr., Thriftmart real

Bellante To Head Kiwanians

Joe Bellante, local realtor, was elected president of the newly formed Kiwanis club of Waveria which is being sponsored by the Lomita Kiwanis club.

Other officers elected to serve with him include Charles W. Scott, 1st vice president; Bob Owens, 2nd vice president; and Don Warren, secretary-treasurer.

Directors are Jack Weinstein, Dr. Hampton L. Sancher, Fred R. Stevens, J. A. Beasley, Robert G. Boyd, Harold Human, and Dr. W. J. Labit.

Charter installation ceremonies are being planned now.

Hawthorne Signal Approved

The State of California, Department of Public Works, showed a change of heart in regard to traffic signals for 220th st. and Hawthorne ave., as it informed school officials that "the installation of traffic signals and safety lighting is advisable."

The relentless fight to obtain a signal at the dangerous intersection near the Meadow Park school started at the beginning of the semester when mothers formed human chains across the highway to protect their children.

Letters from the others, city council and school board requests were all met with polite but firm refusals for a signal.

With the completion, apparently, of a survey of all of Hawthorne ave., the State has seen fit to place a signal at that intersection.

This information was received by Herbert J. Farris, Meadow Park principal, who submitted the letter from G. T. McCoy, State highway engineer, State of California, Department of

Is There A Float in City's Future?

Apparently stung to the quick by Torrance's lack of representation in the annual Rose Parade, Mayor Albert Isen recommended that the city start planning to have a float in the parade from now on.

"We're missing something in public relations and letting the country know about Torrance," Mayor Isen said.

Stating that such a project is too big for any one club to handle, he recommended that the Park and Recreation Commission investigate what other cities do and come up with a recommendation.

Councilman Victor Benstead suggested that the Chamber of Commerce handle the project.

Constant Factor - - Results!

New years come and old years go, but Torrance Press classified results endure forever.

Fred Fassenfelt of 2058 Lomita Park place is simply one of hundreds of happy Torrance Press classified advertisers who are unconditionally pleased with their results.

Fassenfelt placed the following ad:

FOR SALE: Maple bedroom set with box spring and mattress. \$40. Phone 8-2345. DA. 6-7457

He had 40 calls. People were calling at 7:15 in the morning.

His sure-fire results call for a 8-2345 and place your inexpensive classified ad. It's so quick and painless.

Collecting Christmas Cards



INSTEAD OF THROWING CHRISTMAS CARDS AWAY residents are asked to bring them to Policewoman Maxine Herman at the Torrance Police Department (on Cravens near El Prado). She is collecting them to be turned over to orphanages, crippled children, and other youth centers. Press Photo

School, City Construction Resumes Here

School and civic center construction resumed this week as the three months' sand and gravel strike came to an end.

"We can figure that the strike has cost us about 3 1/2 months delay in our school construction," S. E. Waldrip, assistant superintendent (business), stated. "Exposed steel will have to be specially treated and concrete is still pretty hard to get."

Hardest hit facilities include Sepulveda and Arlington elementary schools, North high gym, warehouse, and additions to the Board of Education.

While the strike hit the civic center construction as well, it did not delay it as much apparently as school construction.

"We didn't lose three months any place," City Manager George Stevens explained. "Delays ranged anywhere from one to 2 1/2 months."

Hardest hit was the swimming pool, but construction has apparently resumed there as well as on all civic center and fire station projects.

The strike was also credited with keeping building activity in Torrance under 1954's record-breaking high. Building permits for 1955 totaled \$42,575,940 as compared with 1954's \$45,086,532.

At year's end, the Torrance population was estimated at more than 70,000. Population estimate on January 1, 1955 was 55,000.

Levy Issues Challenge To Believers In Youth

One answer to juvenile crime and frustration is wholesome, constructive youth programs, and all those who believe firmly in this principle should match their beliefs with action.

So stated Sam Levy, general chairman of the 1956 YMCA campaign, who emphasizes that the best way that like-minded individuals may prove their good will is by volunteering to help with the

Wailers Rescue Chest Drive

Members of the Wailers car club of Lomita, hearing that Lomita was 10% short of its Community Chest quota, showed their civic-mindedness by holding a dance, the proceeds of which were turned over to the Community Chest.

As a result, Lomita met all but \$52.10 of its quota, since the Wailers turned over \$250 to the Community Chest.

The dance was held at Lomita park in December, with the backing of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce and the cooperation of the Recreation Department.

Jim Balcom, secretary of the Wailers, and Bill Patridge, president, last week turned a \$250 check over to E. E. "Snuffy" Meyers, Lomita Harbor City Community Chest chairman, in the presence of Tim McCormick, secretary-manager of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce.

4 New Years Accidents Here

Traffic accidents over the New Year's week-end in Torrance were light, according to police records, with four accidents reported, and only one minor injury.



CIVIC-MINDED... Members of the Wailers car club, upon hearing that Lomita Harbor City had fallen short of its Community Chest quota, decided to make up the deficit by holding a dance and turning all proceeds over to the fund-raising drive. Here Bill Patridge, president of the Wailers, hands Jim Balcom, secretary, the pen with which to make out the \$250 check. Looking on are Tim McCormick (seated), Lomita Chamber of Commerce, and E. E. "Snuffy" Meyers, Chest chairman (Lomita Harbor City).—Press Photo