

CITY FACES CRISIS: INCREASE TAXES OR DECREASE SERVICES?

Tax May Increase 30 Cents

Unless the Torrance City Council considers a tax increase of 30 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, the city will not be able to keep up with the needs of local residents. The present tax rate is \$1.184.

This was the alternative offered Tuesday night by City Manager George Stevens.

Stevens indicated that the increase for the average GI homeowner would amount to about \$3.40 per year.

Stevens gave the council a fact by fact description of the situation with which the city is faced.

"The anticipated increase in income," he said, "will barely take care of the expected normal increase for employees' salaries."

Added Expenses

Furthermore, there are some added expenses in the 1957-58 budget which are not included in the current year's budget.

These include:

- 1) A municipal election in April, 1958, at a probable cost of \$40,000 to \$50,000.
- 2) The possibility of a special election, at about the same cost.
- 3) The purchase of at least five additional loadpackers and the hiring of 15 additional men to handle the pick-up of combustible refuse after October 1, 1957, when burning of backyard incinerators will be prohibited. (Packer cost, \$65,000; crew cost, \$63,000 annually; maintenance and operation, \$7500 annually.)

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Post Office To Reduce Service Here

Curtailment of mail services will become effective this Saturday in Torrance, as it will throughout the country, unless the requested additional funds become available.

So stated Clara A. Conner, postmaster, as she complied with a ruling issued by Postmaster General Summerfield.

The following curtailments will take place:

Starting Saturday, April 13, the main post office in Torrance and all classified and contract stations will be closed to the public on all Saturdays and Sundays, and all carrier delivery service will be discontinued.

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Reporting System Studied By School District Group

Should seventh and eighth graders receive letter grades (A,B,C,D,F) or should they continue on the non-grade parent-teacher conference program until they go to high school?

That is the question which will be studied by a 19-member committee formed by the Torrance Unified School District.

To be determined is whether it is desirable to make the transition to the graded system at the seventh and eighth grade levels in order to accustom youngsters to high school methods.

Heading the committee is Mrs. Margaret Denmark, curriculum specialist for the school district. The group is composed of administrators, teachers, parents, and representatives of business and professional groups.

The committee met for the first time last Thursday and will meet again today at 4 p.m. in the Board of Education chamber.

The committee's ideas will be presented to school faculty.

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EASTER BUNNY TIME
Miss Cynthia Beadle and friend.—Press Photo.

LET'S HAVE LOWER MILK PRICES

The State of California, which has controlled the price of milk, is now thinking of additional price controls—this time on cream.

Not only will this prevent a scheduled decline in the price of milk, but it will actually increase the cost of cream products.

The State's suggested cost on half and half will be four cents higher than Ralphs Grocery co.'s present price, for instance.

Because this is a matter of great importance affecting the pocket books of families in Torrance and all of Southern California, Ralphs Grocery co. is taking up the campaign against the State's action.

The grocery firm indicated that because of State price controls, milk must be sold anywhere from two to three cents per quart higher than necessary.

Every family in this community can help correct this situation now. The Torrance Press joins Ralphs Grocery co. in urging individuals to:

1. Write a card or letter over your signature to: Governor Goodwin J. Knight, Sacramento, California, and/or

2. Attend and speak in person at the public milk hearing today, Thursday, April 11, 1957, at 10 a.m., room 100, Police Building, 150 N. Los Angeles st. in order to get fair milk and cream prices.

SUPERINTENDENT HULL SUFFERS HEART ATTACK

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of Torrance Schools, who suffered a critical heart attack late Friday night, was doing satisfactorily yesterday with no set-backs, according to top school officials.

Hospital officials described his condition as "fair."

Dr. Hull was stricken while attending a superintendents' meeting in Paramount.

The 48-year-old educator was taken home by a member of the group. It was believed at first that this was a recurrence of an old digestive upset.

He became worse and was rushed to Torrance Memorial hospital. Attending him are his doctors, Edward Knutson and Robert Nielsen.

Dr. Hull celebrated his 10th anniversary as head of the Torrance school system last week Monday.

Only members of the immediate family were allowed to visit him at the hospital. His attack was described as "myocardial infraction."

"We are continuing to cover our areas of responsibility," Dr. Albert N. Posner, assistant superintendent, educational services, said.

The Phone Kept Ringing And Ringing

She just can't get over it—the terrific results of Torrance Press classified ads, of course.

That's what Mrs. William A. Green of 1613 W. 227th st. said after using the Torrance Press classified ad service for the first time.

Her ad read as follows:

FOR RENT—2 bedroom, fenced yard, 3 children OK. \$75. FA. 8-0241. NO DRINKERS.

"People started calling at 7 a.m.," she stated. "I couldn't get away from the phone until afternoon. People kept calling over the week-end and I'm still getting calls. I can't begin to estimate the total number of calls I had. This is the first time I ever advertised and I'm simply amazed at the results."

The Largest Circulating Newspaper between Los Angeles and Long Beach

TORRANCE PRESS

1406 CRAVENS AVE. — FA. 8-2345

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Increased Council, Election of Mayor at Large May Go on Ballot

CITY WILL STUDY TWO PROPOSALS

Election of the mayor at large and increasing the number of councilmen will come up for consideration when the Torrance City Council will discuss the various amendments to be placed before the voters next April.

Councilmen agreed unanimously to bring this matter up at the time they discuss the other amendments.

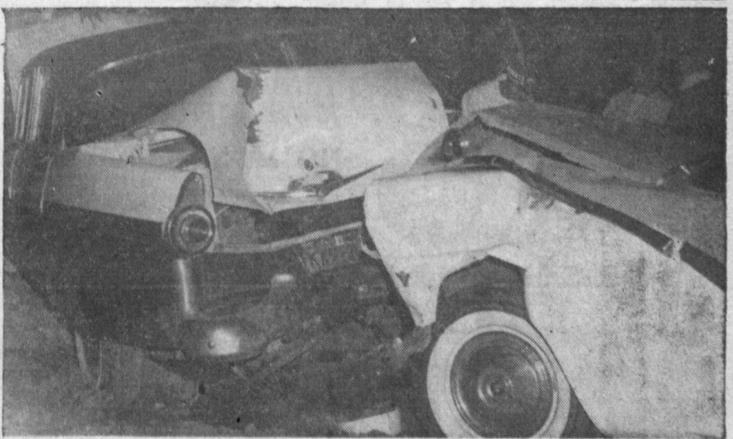
This action followed a discussion of a letter submitted by the North Torrance Civic Improvement Assn. calling for such an amendment.

The association recommended increasing the number of councilmen from five to six, to be elected at large, and the election of the mayor at large rather than by the council as is now the case.

The mayor is to vote only in case of a tie.

Such a change in the present council set-up was recommended by the Torrance Press some months ago.

Councilman Nick Drake sought to put the measure on the ballot immediately but other councilmen asked that it be brought up at the time other amendments were considered so that it could be studied properly.



THREE-CAR COLLISION

A third car rammed into two cars parked along Hawthorne ave. Monday night. The collision occurred when the driver of the first car pulled off the road to fix a tire, driver of the second car pulled off the road to help, and driver of the third car plowed into both.—Press Photo by Bill Robison.

2 Thrown 15 Feet in Hawthorne Ave. Crash

Treated for shock, cuts and possible internal injuries after both were hurled 15 feet from their cars at Hawthorne ave. north of Sepulveda blvd. Monday evening were Charles M. Combs, 24, of 5251 Zakon rd. and Helen L. Cronkrite, 31, of 5134 Carmelyn st.

Lomita Man Kidnapped, Robbed, Then Let Go

Still being sought is a kidnap-robbery team who took a Lomita resident into the Palos Verdes hills at gunpoint, then robbing him of \$160.

Edgar McDaniel, 47, of 2104 Lomita Park pl., told Torrance police that he had just cashed a payroll check at a market at 23747 Arlington ave. Friday before noon when he was approached by two suspects described as Mexicans, 24 to 25 years of age.

McDaniel said he was returning to his car parked on the street in front of the market.

One of the suspects approached him, saying:

"Come on, get in my car!"

The victim and one suspect climbed into the rear seat of the car driven by the second suspect. He said he was then driven over to Crenshaw blvd. and up Crest rd. into the hills.

When they got to a point from where he could see Marineland the suspect turned to him stating:

"Gimme your wallet."

After taking the money, the suspect returned the wallet and

Police said the woman driver rammed into the rear of Combs' car and another car which had both stopped on the shoulder of the road.

Combs told officers that he had pulled over to the side to help Dominic A. Mariorenzi, 35, of 3519 W. 225th st., driver of the first car, who had tire trouble.

Mariorenzi escaped injury when he leaped aside just before the impact. He was reaching into the trunk of his car for his spare tire when he saw the approaching car.

Lawyer Will Speak about Annexation

Edward J. Skelly, Los Angeles attorney, will discuss the latest laws concerning annexation.

He will speak at a special meeting sponsored by the Lomita Civic League today, Thursday, at 7:30 p.m. in the banquet room over the Circle Inn, 2013 Pacific Coast hwy.

Skelly, who has had much experience with annexation laws, recently fought an attempt by the city of Glendale to annex an adjoining unincorporated area. The matter was taken as far as the California Supreme Court.

The attorney is expected to shed light on Lomita's own problem in relation to Torrance. The meeting is open to the public.

Bill Calls for Third Judge

A bill calling for the appointment of a third judge in the South Bay Municipal Court District has gone to Gov. Goodwin Knight for his signature, according to Assemblyman Vincent Thomas.

The judge will preside over a branch of the municipal court to be established in Torrance. Thomas indicated that he would talk to Knight today about obtaining his signature on the piece of legislation.

COMPLETES TRAINING

Pvt. Elvis L. Hazel, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Coy L. Hazel, 23422 Orchard ave., recently completed ten weeks of advanced individual training at the Army's Armor Training center.

Press Offers Evening Classified Ad Service

Classified advertisers are being offered a new evening service.

When you call after regular business hours when the office is closed, you may leave a message with an electronic ad-taker.

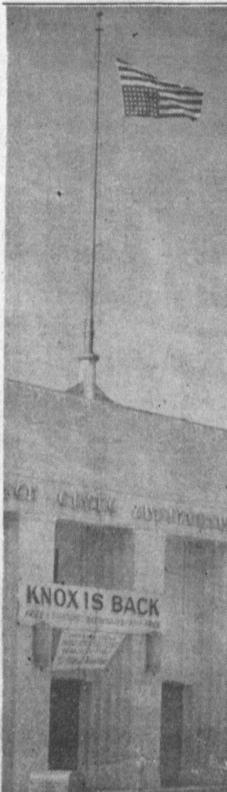
You will be given 30 seconds to leave your name, address, telephone number and message.

By writing down your classified ad in advance, you will have sufficient time to dictate it to the machine.

If there are any questions about the ad, a classified girl will call you back in the morning.

Should you desire help in wording your ad, just leave your name, address and telephone number and a classified girl will call you back at any time you designate.

Cost of a classified ad is \$1.30 for 15 words.



DISTRESSED?

"The flag should never be displayed with the union down save as a signal of dire distress."—Information Please Almanac, 1957, page 433.

Lomita, RH Annexation Moves Slow

Torrance annexation activity in the Lomita and Rolling Hills areas is getting off to a slow start.

A report to Torrance city officials by residents in the area interested in annexation indicated that no petitions have been circulated in Lomita so far.

There's been no noticeable activity, either, in the two Rolling Hills areas (Dapplegray and Crenshaw).

In the meantime, however, Lomita incorporation forces are starting a mail campaign to put the incorporation issue to a vote, it was announced by the pro-city United Lomita Group.

Each property owner will receive a petition with the owner's name and description of the property and be asked to sign and return it.

Petitions must be filed with the County Board of Supervisors by the end of the month in order to determine if there will be an election on the issue.

City Council Issue Jaycee Dinner Topic

Mayor Albert Isen and Councilman Nick Drake headline the program of the Torrance Junior Chamber regular dinner meeting April 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Club Alondra. To be discussed is the proposed City Charter amendment calling for six councilmen and a mayor elected at large—rather than the present system of five councilmen, one of whom is chosen mayor by the councilmen themselves.

Stanley Remelmeyer, city attorney, has been invited to act as legal advisor for the evening.

The board of directors of the Junior Chamber point out that they have not taken a stand either for or against the proposal but have scheduled this program merely to acquaint their membership with the issue.

The public is invited to attend and may make dinner reservations by phoning the club.



ONE-ACT PLAY AWARDS

There to present the Rosemary DeCamp awards in person was Mrs. Rosemary DeCamp Shidler who gave trophies to Torrance High school playrights Saturday night following the performance. Receiving the awards are (l-r) Elsa Barlow, Tom Queggin, (Miss DeCamp), Karen Brunel, and Jim Weyant. Also present to discuss the merits of the plays were Ann B. Davis and Duane Hickman of the Bob Cummings show, which also features Miss DeCamp.—Press Photo.