

Vote "Yes" Tuesday For a Better City

When you step into the voters booth next Thursday, you'll be handed a ballot (the sample is reprinted below.) This ballot represents a solution to three important problems confronting Torrance.

For more than a year, city planners and officials, city civic organizations and neighborhood groups have been wrestling with suggestions and proposals to meet the problems the city faces with its airport, its parks and recreational facilities and its enlarged city administration.

These groups and officials resolved their differences and their varied approaches to unite around common proposals that would begin solving the problems. At no time in the past has there been such unanimity of opinion in the city.

The ballot represents the result of the united approach to build a thriving industrial city while improving the value and beauty of its residential areas.

The Airport Bond proposition which authorizes the city to issue \$1,000,000 in bonds to improve the airport would enhance the industrial attractions of the city. In this age of speed, industrial companies find it necessary to maintain a fleet of planes. They conduct their business with greater dispatch with the planes. We want to attract such industry. They're the ones who don't let grass grow under their feet.

But we also need grass under our feet, and under the feet of our children. That's the reason for the \$3,000,000 bond proposition for parks and recreational facilities.

Torrance's residential areas have been chopped up into 50 x 100 lots. In a few years, there will be no holding down the children in those tract areas as they start looking for room in which to grow and expand. More parks are a must for the children and for Torrance.

What are the alternatives? If money isn't made available to improve the airport, the field will still be used as an airport by the city, but the many safety features that should be built will go by the wayside. The houses that are now in the landing pattern zone will remain in the danger zone, to the detriment of its residents and the city.

And if money isn't made available for parks and expanded and improved recreational areas, what will we be doing with our children and our residential areas? We'll be sending our children out into the streets to play, and permitting 125 acres of valuable park land to be grabbed up for rows of tract homes or rows of commercial buildings.

Charter amendment 2, which we believe to be as important as the bond issues, calls for the direct election of the Mayor. He is now elected by the city council, not the people. We elect the city councilmen. We should certainly get an opportunity, on a city-wide basis, to choose our mayor.

We urge all voters to exercise their responsibility and duty Tuesday, October 29, and go to the polls. And we suggest a Yes vote in all four boxes on the ballot.



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Thursday, October 24, 1957

No. 36



CITY OFFICIALS—Mayor Albert Isen and City Manager George Stevens greet their Junior counterparts at City Hall, Roberta Rogan and Mitzie Yoshioka.

Junior Officials Ask Bond Issue Approval

Torrance's 68 junior officials who ran the city for half a day Tuesday probed, examined and questioned every aspect of city administration and went back to their high schools with renewed admiration for the city and its officials.

They also returned to Torrance, North and South High schools with a fixed determination to urge their parents and parents of their schoolmates to turn out October 29 to vote for adoption of the Airport and Park and Recreation Bond issues, and adoption of the charter amendment to elect a mayor directly by the voters.

The determination was voiced in reports of the Junior Airport and Park and Recreation Commissioners made to Junior and Senior members of the city council as Junior Citizens' Day wound up in council chambers Tuesday night.

Junior members of both commissions were taken on whirlwind tours of airport and park facilities by senior members of the commission Tuesday afternoon.

NEED FOR PARKS
Mike Snyder, reporting for the Junior Park and Recreation Commission, told the city council that a tour convinced him of the pressing need for additional parks. He told the city council that the junior commission recommended adoption of the bond issue to insure availability of necessary funds to purchase additional park sites.

"The Park and Recreation Commission plan puts parks in every section of the city," he said. "The parks will be good for everybody."

He was questioned extensively by Junior City Councilmen. He told Councilman Bill Lee that for the next ten years, at least, the future park needs of the city will be met, if the bond issue is adopted. "Then we may need another bond issue to get more parks and facilities," he added.

Councilman Tom Carter jumped into the discussion. "But if we waited around to get all the money we need for more parks, we'd have to pay much more for the land and much more to build on the land."

OUTSIDE COSTS
"And," Councilman Richard Jurmain, interrupted, "if all of Torrance families used recreational facilities outside the city, we'd all pay more than the \$4.50 a year additional taxes."

Junior Airport Commissioner Steve Otto said his group of commissioners joined in supporting the Airport Bond issue to provide \$1,000,000 for improvement of the Torrance airport. He explained that much of the money would go to acquire additional land to improve the safety of the airport.

"We ought to have a Junior Citizens' Day every week," Dralle suggested at the end of the meeting. "We've never been able to get through so early, and we've never had so much harmony at a meeting."

His suggestion came among a rash of proposals by junior and senior officials to conduct the day on an annual basis, and, perhaps, twice a year.

NEW CITY CENSUS TO START NOV. 1

An official census to determine the actual population growth in Torrance in the last year will begin within ten days, city officials announced this week.

The head count will be conducted by close to 40 census takers recruited by the Federal Census Bureau, and a report on the total city population will be made before December 5.

The last official census taken in 1956 showed a population of 82,000 men, women and children living in the area. Mayor Albert Isen guessed the 1957 population count would reveal that more than 10,000 new residents had moved into the city in the past year.

Torrance city officials were expending \$15,000 for the census with the view that they would be obtaining at least \$60,000 in additional tax money from the state if the population revealed an increase of 10,000.

Six dollars per person in tax money is advanced by the state to the city. On the basis of the 1956 census, Torrance is receiving \$492,000 in tax funds from the state.

Torrance officials hoped to be able to boost the total received from the state to at least \$558,000.

Hero in Auto Crash Fights for His Life

A 17-year old Torrance youth who saved the lives of two young women in the tragic drag race accident two weeks ago was waging a heroic battle for his own life this week.

William Hayes, of 1015 West 227th st., completely paralyzed in the accident that has already claimed the lives of two other youths, was still on the Harbor General Hospital critical list. Little improvement in his physical condition was reported.

The two young women whose lives he had saved were home, well on their way to complete recovery. They were Queta Stonesifer, 16, of 203 West 224 pl., Torrance, and Catherine Hobbs, 15, of 1741 Lakme ave., Wilmington.

Hayes, riding in the back seat of the racing automobile that finally ended up against a house on Dolores ave., pushed the two young women down against the back seat and floor of the car, and threw his body on theirs. His back bore the full brunt of the impact. Hospital x-rays revealed that his spine is fractured and the pressure on the spinal nerves has resulted in his complete paralysis.

His nervous and worried father, William P. Hayes, said: "He's such a good boy. Everyone at the hospital is doing all they can to help him. And we pray and hope he improves. "If you know of any special prayers, I wish you'd offer them in his behalf."

To Build New State Office Here in Spring

Construction of a new \$206,200 office for the Torrance branch of the State Department of Employment will begin in the spring, according to W. A. Hicks, the department's deputy director.

Hicks told City Manager George Stevens that plans for the new building will be completed by January 1. The structure, a one-story reinforced brick building, will go up on the corner of Cravens and Engracia aves.

Completion of the building is expected by spring of 1959, Hicks declared. Of modern design, the 918 square foot branch office will be fitted out with forced air heating, air conditioning and ventilation, acoustic tile ceiling, asphalt tile floor covering and fluorescent lighting. Off-street parking will be provided for 23 vehicles.

An office for the local state legislators is also provided for in the building.

Council Turns Down Request For Signal

The request of 59 North Torrance residents for reinstallation of a traffic light at 171st st. and Crenshaw Blvd., was turned down by the City Council Tuesday night after a report from the Traffic Bureau.

The report indicated that less accidents have occurred at the intersection since the removal of the signal than took place when the signal was operating. "The signal was the actual cause of many of the accidents," the report from Sgt. J. B. Miles, Torrance Police Department traffic bureau officer, said. "People wouldn't see the signal until the last minute and then slam on the brakes and the person following would hit them."

Councilman Nickolas Dralle opposed acceptance of the report. "I can't see how we can deny the petition of all these people. It seems to me that there is some need for control at that corner."

Star to MC Youth Band TV Show 5:30 Sunday

Guest star Rosemary DeCamp, will act as mistress of ceremonies for the Torrance Area Youth Band in its appearance over KRCA-TV (Channel 4) Sunday at 5:30 p.m. This special event is to aid the Youth Band in its drive to raise \$25,000 to attend the Mid-West National Band Clinic in Chicago in December.

A resident of Torrance, Miss DeCamp is famed for her role in the Robert Cummings weekly television show and for performances in such films as "Yankee Doodle Dandy." She has long been identified with projects to encourage youth activity in this community and assists in conducting the annual one-act play festival held at Torrance High school. In private life, she is the wife of Judge John Shidler.

While Miss DeCamp will lend big-name prestige to the house-to-house drive to be conducted after the show, she will be acting in unison with hundreds of parents and youngsters from all over the South Bay Area who have already raised approximately \$10,000 dollars of the \$25,000 needed, according to Postmistress Clara Connors, chairman of the fund-raising committee. Mrs. Connors will also appear on TV Sunday.



YOUTH BAND MEMBERS, Gary Diehl and Bill Colby astound actress Rosemary DeCamp with their knowledge of the intricacies of the new tubas acquired by the Torrance Area Youth Band. Miss DeCamp will be Mistress of Ceremonies on the special Youth Band show over KRCA-TV Sunday at 5:30 p.m.

'Hope You Have No Trouble Straightening Up After Us'

Junior Councilman Bill Lee said he had found that "text-book learning couldn't replace actual learning like this." He added: "If it wouldn't overthrow city hall, it would be very convenient to hold this day every semester."

Councilwoman Leila Santor told the council, and the chamber crowded with parents and other junior and senior officials, that "I've learned something today that is an important part of our growing up in Torrance."

Senior Councilman Robert Jahn turned the tables on the youngsters. "I think the council has learned a great deal by having you here today. Maybe we should have a High School Day and send the council back to freshen up on its knowledge."

Grimming broadly, Junior Councilman Tom Carter said: "I hope you don't have too much trouble straightening up after us."

Steve Otto said his group of commissioners joined in supporting the Airport Bond issue to provide \$1,000,000 for improvement of the Torrance airport. He explained that much of the money would go to acquire additional land to improve the safety of the airport.

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Ex-Park Commissioners Urge Vote for Recreation Bonds

Three former members of Torrance's Park and Recreation Commission appealed to city residents this week to vote for adoption of the \$3,000,000 Park and Recreation Bond Issue.

Herma Tillim, Mary Lee Boswell and J. H. Paget all of whom recently resigned from the commission, joined in a statement urging community support for the bond issue to be voted upon

October 29, at the special election.

"It is imperative that the Recreation Bond passes so that Torrance will have land for future recreation and development," they declared. They said that their years of "investigation and planning" as recreation commissioners, had indicated one need: "The need to save some of our empty land."

Their statement continued: "It is our hope that the com-



COMMUNITY CHEST CHAIRMAN, Glenn Koger, writes down some suggestions for conducting the residential campaign which begins November 4 for Mrs. Alfred E. Kurz, center, Residential Division Chairman for Torrance, and Mrs. Arthur C. Ackerson, Harbor Area Residential Chairman.

City Story in 'Look', Nov. 26

Six million or more readers of Look magazine will look at Torrance November 12, when the issue of the nationally circulated picture publication appears on the newsstands.

The story of Torrance, its growth, its problems and how its people sought to solve the problems was gathered by a Look reporter-photographer team in January, soon after Torrance was declared an All American city. They took hundreds of photographs in the ten days they spent in the area.

Other world-wide events crowded the feature story about Torrance out of the magazine until this week when the November 26 issue and the story finally went on Look's presses.

SAMPLE BALLOT

(This number shall be torn off by Inspector and handed to the voter.)

No.

Mark Crosses (X) on Ballot Only with RUBBER STAMP;

Never With Pen Or Pencil (Absentee Ballots May Be Marked with Pen and Ink or Pencil.)

(Fold ballot to this perforated line, leaving top margin exposed.)

(PERFORATED LINE)

MUNICIPAL BALLOT

SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS CONSOLIDATED

CITY OF TORRANCE

LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 29, 1957

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: To vote on any measure, stamp a cross (X) in the voting square after the word "Yes" or after the word "No." All marks, except the cross (X) are forbidden. All distinguishing marks or erasures are forbidden and make the ballot void.

If you wrongly stamp, tear or deface this ballot, return it to the inspector of election and obtain another.

On absent voter ballot mark a cross (X) with pen or pencil.

MEASURES SUBMITTED TO VOTE OF VOTERS

CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 1: Shall a new article be added to the Charter of the City of Torrance to be known as "Article XX, Airport Fund" (consisting of Sections 1 to 4, inclusive), establishing a separate fund in the treasury of said city to be designated "Airport Fund," in which shall be placed all receipts from the use or operation of all airport facilities owned by the city, all of said receipts to be used for the expenses of operating and maintaining said airport facilities and for the payment of principal and interest on bonds of the city, including general obligation bonds, issued for the acquisition, construction, improvement or financing of airport facilities or for additions, extensions or capital improvements thereto?

Yes

No

CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 2: Shall Sections 1 and 3 of Article VI, Sections 2, 13 and 14 of Article IX, Section 7 of Article X, and Section 1 of Article XII of the Charter of the City of Torrance be amended, providing for a Mayor and six members of the Council and making them elective officers of the city, providing for the election of elective officers at the general municipal election of 1958, changing the minimum vote required for the adoption of certain types of resolutions and ordinances, and establishing the rights, powers and duties of the Mayor?

Yes

No

BOND PROPOSITION A—AIRPORT FACILITIES: Shall the City of Torrance incur a bonded indebtedness in the principal amount of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of the acquisition and construction of said city of a certain municipal improvement, to wit: additions to and improvements of the public airport of said city, including the acquisition and improvement of land for aircraft landing approach zones, runways, taxiways, and other airport facilities and improvements, together with all grading and the removal of buildings, and the acquisition of fencing, lighting, apparatus, equipment and property necessary for any of the foregoing?

Bonds-Yes

Bonds-No

BOND PROPOSITION B—PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES: Shall the City of Torrance incur a bonded indebtedness in the principal amount of \$3,000,000 for the purpose of the acquisition and construction by said city of a certain municipal improvement, to wit: park and recreational facilities for said city, including the acquisition and improvement of land for park and recreation sites, the improvement of land for park and recreation sites, the improvement of existing park and recreation sites, and the construction of all buildings, structures, roadways, vehicle parking facilities, and other improvements necessary for park and recreation purposes, together with landscaping and the acquisition of furniture, furnishings, apparatus, equipment and other property necessary for any of the foregoing?

Bonds-Yes

Bonds-No