

Isen in Bid for Reelection

Mayor Will File for Another Term

Mayor Albert Isen today announced formally that he will run for the new, four-year term as Torrance's chief executive.

He has held the city's top elective post for the past three years, and conceived the plan to enter Torrance in the All-American City contest which Torrance won.

Under the charter amendment approved by the voters at a special election last October, the Mayor will be elected directly by the people in the April 8 election. In the past, the Mayor was elected from among the members of the City Council.

"It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve as Mayor of Torrance for the past three years," Isen declared. "They have been good years, with a city-wide development so outstanding as to achieve national recognition as an 'All American City.' The future holds even greater promises."

Isen was first elected to the Council in April, 1954, and received the largest vote ever received to that date by any candidate for that office.

The incumbent holds the distinction that he is the first person to begin and complete his education in Torrance schools.

He was born in Los Angeles in 1907 and moved to Torrance in 1913, when his father opened the first store in this city which then had a population of 300.

Following graduation from Torrance High School in 1924, Isen attended USC and received his law degree in 1930. He was instructor in business law at Torrance and Redondo Beach High Schools for 10 years after he entered private law practice here in 1933.

Isen was area chairman of the Red Cross in 1955 and 1956 and won the J. Earle Jardine Jr. trophy for Torrance for the first time. Presently he serves as general chairman of the Torrance YMCA campaign.

He is past president of the South Bay Bar Association, South Bay Area B'nai B'rith Lodge and Torrance Lions Club, and is a member of the Elks, Harbor Bar Association, Moose, Masons, El Toga and South Bay Shrine Clubs.

In giving his reasons for entering the campaign, Isen said: "As far as I'm concerned, there is only one campaign issue—good city government. It has been a constant challenge to me



MAYOR ALBERT ISEN

maintain and improve our efficient city services while holding the line on taxes. Our tax rate is lower than that of most cities, and with the new industries and shopping centers now under construction, I am optimistic that it will be even lower.

"It is my hope that in the future more citizens will attend council meetings. Their comments and suggestions would be of great benefit to the community."

"At the time I accepted this office, many outside interests were given up in order to devote all possible time and effort to its important duties. I have worked hard and have given it the best that was in me, and would like to continue on the job. I am seeking election on the basis of my qualifications and experience, plus a record of constructive legislation."



PARK SITE BONDS: Mrs. Terry Booth, 4827 Lee st., right, circulates a petition among her neighbors in an effort to have bonds for the purchase of park sites in Torrance put on the ballot in the coming election. Shown signing the petition for her is Larry Clem. Also joining in the campaign are little Debby Booth, inside the door, and Sherry Booth, beside her mother on the right.

City Will Start Operation Of Airport on March 1

Municipal operation of the Torrance Municipal Airport will begin March 1, after the City Council voted 3 to 2 to end a management agreement with a private firm.

Collins-Dietrich, a private firm which has had managing responsibility for the airfield for the past eight and one-half years, will receive \$1000 a month until its 10-year contract expires on May 3, 1959.

New Operation
In a prepared written statement, Mayor Albert Isen said that while the firm has handled the job capably, certain operations will make it beneficial for the city to administer the airport.

"The recent development... improvement program of our airport indicates many activities (night flying, control tower operation etc.) which were unforeseen and consequently not covered by the contract written in 1949," the statement read.

City Revenue
"Mr. Dietrich has indicated that his organization does not wish to assume the liability from these unanticipated operations."

The Mayor said that the city can expect a gross revenue of \$92,500 annually, excluding sales of gasoline. Cost of operation

First Phone Call Lucky For Seller

The first call was the lucky one for M. D. Elliott, of 24725 Senator ave., Harbor City.

He had a 1952 Studebaker for sale, and did the obvious thing.

He placed a classified ad in the Torrance Press last Sunday.

When the phone rang for the first time, it was an interested buyer, and Elliott reported that this first call was all it needed to sell the sedan.

If you have anything to sell, buy, rent or swap, call the Torrance Press at FA 8-2345, and a courteous advertiser will take care of your problem.

Council Bids for Sewers

Request that a trunk sewer line be constructed under Hawthorne Blvd. to open up large areas for industrial development, was made Tuesday by the Torrance City Council.

In a resolution, it asked that County Sanitation District No. 5 construct the line on Hawthorne Blvd. between Sepulveda and Lomita Blvds.

The resolution points out that a \$40,000,000 regional shopping area is already under construction on the northeast corner of Sepulveda and Hawthorne Blvds., and plans have been announced for a medical center at Hawthorne and Carson St., commercial development on Hawthorne between Lomita and Torrance Blvds.

The Council also noted that plans have been made for an industrial subdivision on Sepulveda Blvd. between Madrona Ave. and Crenshaw Blvd.

In the resolution it was urged that construction of a trunk sewage system will open up vast area with valuation of many millions of dollars.

No Major Problems In Storm

Torrance came through the rainstorm which lashed the area this week without major damage or inconvenience, John V. Russell, director of public works announced.

"We had things pretty well under control and it wasn't nearly as bad as in other communities," the official said.

Rainfall in the storm was 2.04 inches. This brought the season's total to date to 8.66 inches, more than last season's at this time which amounted to 4.87 inches.

Russell said that his crews which worked through the night on an emergency basis.

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Legislature OKs Charter Changes

Both houses of the state legislature have approved Torrance's charter amendment which creates two more city council seats and provides for the election of the mayor directly by the people's Assemblyman Vincent Thomas reported.

The step was taken before the legislature adjourned Tuesday night. The bill will become official when signed by Gov. Goodwin J. Knight, and will go into effect in the April 8 municipal election.

So. Torrance Lions Charter Is Presented

More than 300 persons attended the charter presentation which officially launched the South Torrance Lions Club Saturday at the Western Ave. Golf Club.

Eddie Warren, district governor, presented the charter to David Tanner, president of the new, 32-member club. Tanner and other officers were installed at the ceremony.

Lions from several clubs, including the harbor area, beach cities and Gardena attended the charter party.

Other new officers of the club are Dr. Max Appleby, Bert Levy and John Lucas, vice presidents; Douglas J. Horlander, secretary; Grover Hatcher, treasurer; Ronald Bishop, tall twister; Warren Post, lion tamer and Herbert Harris, bulletin editor.

The board of directors will be comprised of Dr. Thomas Halsey, Herbert Jackson, Thomas Abrams and Richard Landauer.

Charter members are Rex Green, Virgil Hancock, Daniel J. Hyland, Clifford Nickle, Warren R. Post, George Powell, Jack R. Stevens, William G. Tessler, Douglas H. Trowbridge and John W. Wallace.

Police Dragnet Out for Four Robbery Suspects



CLOSES DOWN: Mining operations at the Great Lakes Carbon Company will shut down at the end of this month because the ground had been emptied of dicalite deposits. Approximately 65 men will be laid off. Company officials are trying to find other jobs for terminated employees.—Press Photo.

Lone Rookie Chases Car; Bandits Flee

A police dragnet fanned out over the Torrance area yesterday tracking down four robbery suspects who escaped in an oil field after their stolen car smashed into a power pole following a chase by a Torrance police rookie.

The pursuit began at Cravens and Gramercy Aves. early Wednesday morning when Officer Arthur Fuller sighted the late model sedan occupied by four men.

Suspicious, Fuller chased the car over rain slick streets until the suspects' car crashed into a lightpole at Eshelman and 236th St.

The four occupants spilled out of the car and fled.

In response to Fuller's call for assistance, two other Torrance police units as well as cars from Los Angeles, the Sheriff's Office and Palos Verdes Estates joined the hunt.

The search which lasted several hours, broke off shortly after dawn when officers failed to find the suspects.

Find Weapons
Inside the car, stolen in Pasadena, officers found a .45 automatic and a .32 revolver. Both weapons were stashed in the glove compartment.

Police also found the drivers' licenses of two victims in a robbery of a market committed at Carson and Figueroa Sts. earlier Tuesday night.

Fuller described one of the suspects as being about 17 years old. Another one was about 25 years old and wore a Navy officer's raincoat.

The gang is wanted for questioning in connection with several other robberies in the Los Angeles area.

A search for the suspects was continued yesterday.

Firemen Pay For Damage At Fire Site

It wasn't hay when the Torrance Fire Department shelled out \$1.18 in cold cash Monday.

The money was spent to purchase two boards which firemen had knocked out while fighting a hay fire at the Cream 'n Farms Dairy Saturday, when 400 bales of hay burned up causing \$1800 damage.

Firemen are still investigating the blaze which broke out from undetermined causes in the rear of 3231 W. 166th Street.

Mail Citizen Award Ballot

Nomination blanks for Torrance's "Citizen of the Year" award were mailed Monday to all Torrance businesses, industries, churches and organizations.

Additional blanks may be picked up at the Torrance Press or at the office of the sponsoring Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

The award, to honor the citizen who contributed most to the citizens and city of Torrance in 1957, is sponsored in memory of two departed civic leaders—Dr. William L. Laughan and Grover C. Whyte. It was designed to arouse public awareness in civic activity and to the opportunities available for dedicated community action.

Deadline for nomination on official blanks is February 17, chamber officials announced. Past winners include Mervin M. Schwab (1953), Paul D. Loranzer (1954), Dean L. Sears (1955) and Sam Levy (1956).

Narcotics Taken

Torrance police today hunted for possible narcotics addicts who broke into a drugstore at 2406 Torrance Blvd. over the weekend and made off with \$125 in cash and \$150 of narcotics.

Great Lakes to Close Down Mining Operation

The Great Lakes Carbon Corporation Dicalite plant at Waverly will discontinue operations about February 28 and release approximately 65 of its employees over a period of a few weeks, it was announced today by D. L. Marlett, Vice-President and General Manager of the corporation's Mining and Mineral Products Division.

The plant processes crude diatomite and has been in operation continuously since 1930. The shut down is necessitated by the exhaustion of crude diatomite available at the Waverly location, Marlett said. During the 28 years the plant has operated, hundreds of thousands of ton of crude diatomite have been quarried from adjacent land and processed at the plant. The diatomite is used in the production of Dicalite filteraids, fillers, insulation, and other materials.

SEPARATION PAY
Most of the plant's terminated employees will be released shortly after the shut-down date, it was learned today from Allan K. Muir, Plant Superintendent. Muir stated that a separation pay arrangement had been worked out based on employees' length of service. Employees also will receive earned vacation pay.

Special plans have been made by Great Lakes Carbon to assist terminated employees in finding other employment in the area.

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City Legal Aide Joins Phone Fight

City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier was instructed to assist the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association when its representatives appears at a hearing to oppose telephone rate increases.

J. L. Crain, president of the northside group, said that members of his organization will attend the hearing before the State Public Utilities Commission on Feb. 20.

The meeting is called on a request for rate hikes by the General Telephone Co.

Although making the services of Remelmeier available to the citizens group, the council balked at lending a city bus to take them to Los Angeles.

Torrance May Launch City Library Service Here

Torrance will have to provide municipal library service next year unless it wants to join a County library district at nearly twice the cost it now pays.

City Manager George Stevens reported to the Council that the Board of Supervisors voted to cancel the city's contract as of July 1, 1959.

Contract Service
Torrance has contracted for library service at a rate of 5.9 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, the only city to do so.

If the city decides to join a County library district, the cost will increase to 9.9 cents and Torrance may not get its full value in service, Stevens said. The contract cancellation also threw some cold water on the proposal by John D. Henderson, County Librarian, to build a \$300,000 library if the city donates a site in the civic center.

Remove Books
The city manager answered in the affirmative a question by

Councilman Nickolas O. Drae who asked if the cancellation means that the county will remove all its books from its Torrance libraries.

Mayor Albert Isen said that the trouble with joining a library district is that the city will not get full value for the money it is charged, because Torrance will pay, in effect, for poorer cities.

Under the present contract, Torrance pays approximately \$60,000 a year for library service.

The problem of whether to join the library district or institute municipal library service was dumped into the laps of the newly formed Library Commission for study and recommendation.

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A \$3 BILL?

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