

School Tax Increase of 20 Cents Looms Next Year

A 20-cent tax increase to balance the proposed \$8,414,000 school budget will be proposed to the Torrance board of education at its June 17 meeting.

S. E. Waldrip, assistant superintendent, said that \$305,000 has already been trimmed from the original budget requests but to date another \$300,000 in revenue is needed to balance it.

Waldrip suggested that the tax hike could be taken from the 55 cents override adopted by the voters in 1955.

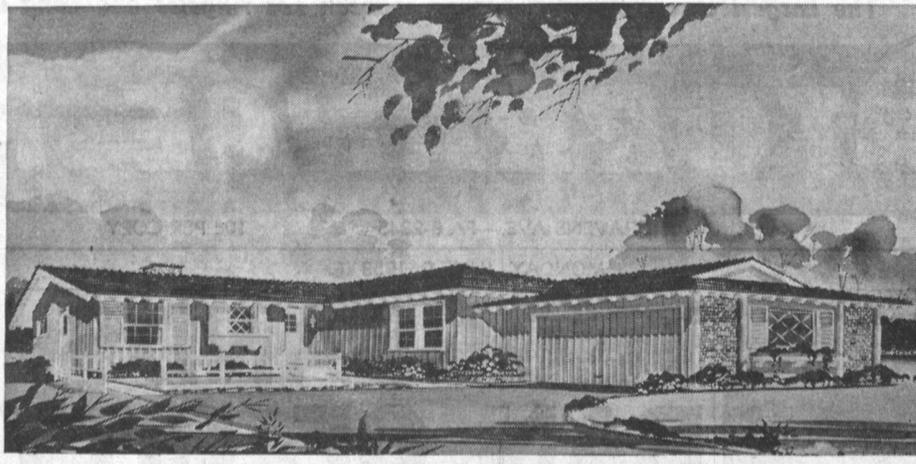
The tentative budget will be adopted at the next board meeting but the final budget will not be approved until August when the district determines its exact assessed valuation.

School officials believe the district will gain a 10 per cent valuation assessment, bringing it up to \$170,000,000.

The 1958-59 school budget is higher than the 1957-58 budget because of 2000 students and inflation, Waldrip explained. Estimated average cost of educating a child next year will be \$354.96 per year, as compared with \$337.08 this year.

Teachers' salaries, reflecting 60 per cent of the total budget, showed a considerable increase. Although no blanket salary raise was given to teachers, each returning teacher will get a \$200 annual increase under the old schedule.

To meet higher costs, W. Aldrip suggested increasing the average number of children in each classroom by one, which would require fewer teachers. Under his suggested formula, there would be one teacher for every 34 students in elementary schools and one teacher for each 27 students in high schools.



ELEGANCE IN LIVING—This is the theme of Grandview Palos Verdes, one of whose \$23,900-\$30,100 homes is pictured above. Furnished model homes and sales offices at 27200 Silver Spur rd., south of Palos Verdes Drive North between Hawthorne ave. and Crenshaw Blvd., are open daily and Sunday from 10 a. m. to 7:30 p. m.

City Probe of 'Copter Use Asked

City Attorney Stanley Remel-meyer will be requested to determine if a helicopter firm is in violation of the land use act.

Several residents in the vicinity of Duschak's Helicopter Rotor Service, 22597 S. Western ave., complained to the Planning Commission Wednesday night that they are disturbed by testing activities at the plant.

They charged that the firm causes noise, dust and hazards in its test-flying of whirlybirds.

One resident, George Reid, of 2807 Martha ave., told the planners that at times the 'copters hover over the plant for 30 minutes or more, testing their blades.

President Bert Lynn of the commission, said that Charles Duschak, owner of the firm, has told him that he intends to transfer operations to Torrance Municipal Airport by 1960.

The commission invited Duschak to appear before it on July 2 to tell them about his future plans of operation.

Speedup Program for High School Students Probed

A revised summer school program for students who will be freshmen in high school next year is planned this year, the Torrance school board was told Tuesday night.

Courses in beginning algebra, general science, Spanish, French, German, and Latin will be offered for advanced students. Students who successfully complete these courses may be placed in more advanced courses next fall.

The program will feature courses in basic skillsreading, general math, and English—and general courses which will offer school credit as electives—practical typing, instrumental music, and practical speech. Classes will be offered at all three local high schools, based on enrollment.

School officials are considering a plan by which some students could graduate in three years instead of the customary four, enabling top students to move ahead faster.



Hope Sunday to Raise Funds for Medical Center

"Citizens of Hope" more than 850 strong, are set to march today in Torrance for the funds urgently needed by the City of Hope for its humanitarian work.

Led by William Boswell, campaign coordinator, local volunteers will join with more than 50,000 others in 100 Southern California communities to stage the biggest Hope Sunday campaign in the history of the free medical center.

The Hope Sunday army will seek contributions to erase a \$500,000 City of Hope deficit and to enable the medical center to continue its fight against catastrophic diseases.

Among the doorbell ringers, he announced, will be a mystery volunteer whose identification will mean a valuable gift for a donor. Transistor radios, household appliances and many other items have been donated by merchants for this purpose.

"When you give on Hope Sunday," he declared, "be sure to ask, 'Are you the City of Hope Mystery Volunteer?'" If your caller can produce the proper identification, a gift will be yours.

Urging local residents to welcome their Hope Sunday neighbors with generous contributions, Boswell stressed that the City of Hope, which depends entirely on public support for its existence, is faced with the greatest demands ever for its specialized services.

HOPE SUNDAY headquarters for Torrance's door-to-door drive scheduled for today, Sunday, will be the Chamber of Commerce building. Here, chamber manager, Dick Fitzgerald, turns keys over to volunteers (left to right) Mrs. Mille (Walter) West of 2034 Reynosa dr., and Mrs. Paul Roettger, 23043 Doris way. Funds are needed to continue and expand the City of Hope's patient care, research and postgraduate medical education programs.

Police Capture Boy Gun Thief

Torrance and Redondo Beach police nabbed a 15-year-old boy Tuesday morning after he stole a sawed-off .22 caliber rifle from a home at 4743 Cadison st.

Several police units searched for the youngster, said to be dangerous, after he was observed in a market at 190th st. and Inglewood ave., carrying the weapon.

Police who collared him at Hawthorne Blvd. and 186th st., said he has a four-year record of burglaries and once held two policemen at bay with a rifle.

Edison Installs Smog Equipment

Concrete has been poured and support steel is now being erected for the full-size prototype electrostatic precipitator which Southern California Edison Co. is installing at its El Segundo Steam Station, it was reported today by G. L. Blanchard, Edison district manager.

The complex air pollution control equipment—the first ever built for use on oil burning furnaces—is being manufactured by Western Precipitation Corp. of Los Angeles and will be transported in sections to the installation around the middle of June, Blanchard announced.

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WILLIAM H. TOLSON—LEE WILSON

William H. (Bill) Tolson, realtor, mayor of Torrance for two terms, 1937-40 and 44-48, has lived here for 45 years and has been in the real estate business for the past 12. As an active leader, member of the City Council (two terms), on the board of education from 1950-54, member of the Rotary Club and for many years owner of a transfer business, he is well qualified in his field, since he knows Torrance thoroughly, having watched it grow since 1913, when he settled here.

Doing business under the name of William H. Tolson and Associates, Tolson this week is moving from 1608 Cravens ave., where he has been located for the past four years, to an office at 1308 Sartori, where he and his associate, Lee Wilson, will specialize in subdivision, industrial, commercial and farm land sales with houses and lots remaining their "bread and butter" items.

Actively engaged in the real estate and insurance business with their father, sons Bob and Bill Jr. a few months ago affiliated with the Equitable Insurance Company with offices in Los Angeles.

Tract Homes

Tolson's office handled sales of 260 houses at 190th and Crenshaw for Steiner and Horn, 160 houses at 182nd and Hawthorne for the American Land Company, 260 houses at Pacific Coast hwy. and Crenshaw for the January Company, and numerous other tracts in Orange County and other areas.

Tolson is a member of national, state and local realtor boards and was recently on the board of directors of the Torrance-Lomita board for two years.

Horse and Buggy

When Tolson settled in Torrance in 1913, there was only one paved street going in and out of Torrance, the East Road, now known as 208th st. At that time he organized the Tolson Transportation Co., a local transfer service which used horses and buggies. A few years later he went into the U. S. Army and upon his discharge in 1919, enlarged the firm and started using trucks. At one time they operated more than 40 trucks and trailers and hauled practically all the steel out of Columbia and Soule Steel Co. The firm, highly esteemed in the area, was in existence for more than 20 years.

Low Budget

Tolson started a city council term in 1934, at which time the city population was under 5000 and its budget, \$400,000.

The bond issue which resulted in the building of the "old" city hall, the auditorium and the library, was passed in 1935, 20 years to the date the city hall on Torrance Blvd. was dedicated.

It was also in 1935 that the city bought the Water Company and put in a new modern system, raised the water pressure and, most important, lowered the rate—more than half.

When the Pacific Electric Company discontinued serving this area, it was Tolson who got the Asbury Transportation Company to put busses in the area. The company ran busse free of charge for 30 days while waiting for their franchise so the people of Torrance would not be without transportation. The Torrance bus service extends to 10th and Hill in L. A.

In 1950 he was elected to the board of education in an unprecedented write-in on the election ballots, a move started by his friends, who felt he would serve the board well.

He also helped bring the first Protestant church in Torrance, now known as the First Baptist Church. He also helped organize the local YMCA.

For five years he was director of the L. A. County Districts Sanitation Department, largest in the world.

Tolson and his wife Isabel have lived for many years at 903 Beach st.

Lee Wilson

Lee Wilson has been a Torrance resident for three years and with Tolson for the past two. He lives at 1312 Cordara ave. with his wife Rose and sons Bill and Jim and daughter Janet. Lee is a member of the Torrance Optimist Club, Boosters Club and is on the publicity committee of the Torrance-Lomita Realty Board. He formerly was a resident of Anaheim.

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READY FOR TAKEOFF—Ed Phinney, pilot of a pusher plane, tussles with Bill Gohsman, president of the South Bay Exchange Club, for trophy which will be awarded to the winner of the "Lucky Seven" air race this week-end from Torrance Municipal Airport to Las Vegas. Exchange Clubs are sponsoring the event.

—Press Photo

Science Program Revisions Eyed

Dr. V. L. Bollman, professor of physics at Occidental College, spent Tuesday conferring with Torrance high school teachers and school officials about the science programs in local schools.

He discussed current trends in science education and the educational implication of recent nuclear physics developments. He advised local officials on possible revisions of science programs in local schools.

OK Channel Bridge

The Board of Supervisors Wednesday acted at the request of their chairman, Burton W. Chace, to approve plans and specifications for the construction of a new bridge on Sepulveda Blvd. above Dominguez channel.

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