

Voters to Decide Fate of School Bond Issue Tuesday

School Bond Needs

Next Tuesday, Torrance residents will go to the polls to decide the fate of the \$15,000,000 bond issue proposed by the Torrance Unified School District.

The Torrance Press is convinced, after thorough study, that approval of the measure is vital to provide the building needs of the school district.

School officials have pointed out that the tax rate will not be increased, and that passage of the bond issue is a must in order to assure continued eligibility for state aid.

The district now has an enrollment of 23,300 students. This number will swell to 32,600 by 1963, and additional school buildings must be provided to accommodate the increasing student population.

The bond money, if approved, will be used to finance the construction of West High School, four new elementary schools, additions at 21 elementary and high schools, and rehabilitation of the Fern School.

The bond issue has been endorsed by numerous groups, representing industry, business labor, churches and citizens.

There appears to be no organized opposition, but apathy of voters could defeat the measure since a two-thirds majority is required for passage.

We urge an emphatic "Yes" vote.

The alternative is a rapid increase in double sessions with resulting deterioration of our education system.

Bond Vote To Buy Buildings

Torrance voters will go to the polls Tuesday to decide whether to authorize \$15,000,000 bond funds for a giant construction program, including at least five new schools and additions at 21 other schools.

If additional funds are not voted, the building program would stop, officials said.

Since present bond funds will be used up when the contract is let for the final units of work at North High late this month, more building funds are needed—for additional construction and to keep the district eligible for help under the state loan program.

Student Bulge

The district's bulging classrooms now contain 23,300 children, and this number is expected to increase to at least 32,600 by 1963. Some 3950 students now are on double sessions. Officials estimate that if the building program can be continued at its present rate, double sessions can be virtually eliminated.

Expansion of a program for academically talented students would be stymied if the bond issue did not pass, because schools would be more crowded than at present.

Passage of the bond issue would not mean any increase in taxes, because the amount of bond funds which can be sold during any year is limited by law.

New Schools

Present plans call for construction of West High with the additional money, as well as a west Torrance elementary school and Adams, Towers, and Madison Elementary Schools. Money would be allotted for additions to Riviera, Newton, WALTERIA, Steele, Torrance Elementary, Edison, Madrona, Carr, Perry, Sepulveda, Crenshaw, Arlington, and Parkway Schools, and for the rehabilitation of Fern School, to make it earthquake-proof.

In addition, the bond funds would cover additions to Adams School, still on the drawing boards, and for Magruder, Lincoln, and Hamilton Schools, which are now under construction, but not yet completed.

The bond proposal won endorsements from the Torrance Ministerial Assn., the Committee for Better Schools, formerly the Science Education Council, the WALTERIA Businessmen's Assn., the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Torrance Retail Merchants, Unions and Torrance Industries Tax Committees.

The bonds have been actively supported by a Committee of 50, composed of leading residents of Torrance. There has been no organized opposition.

The last school bond issue was passed by Torrance voters in 1955. Since that time, seven new elementary schools and two high schools have been opened to house the growing number of children. Another six elementary schools now are under construction and will open within the next year.

C.D. COMMISSION LAW

An ordinance creating a civil defense commission of five members to take charge of city planning against disasters, will be submitted to the City Council Tuesday.

Returned Councilmen Name New Water Commissioners

Four additional members were appointed to the Water Commission Tuesday when three members of the City Council returned from a walk-out triggered last week by a hassle over selection procedure. Members of the commission will include Pat Hogue, appointed last week, John Melville, Waldo E. Ford, Jack Brooks and Mervyn Schwab.

Councilman Willy's Blount announced that he had walked out because he had believed that the first five of seven nominations would be automatically appointed; and was fired when the second nomination was rejected.

"If though at long last we would have a chance to submit names," he declared.

Surrendered Rights

Councilman J. A. Beasley said that Mayor Albert Isen had surrendered his rights to nominate all members, when he agreed to let each councilman submit one name.

"As long as I sit on the City Council, I reserve the right to vote as I see fit," he snapped.

"I don't care to go into political deals, whether a man is qualified or not," said Isen. "The majority still rules."

Selection Dispute

Last week, Draie, Blount and George Bradford left the meeting in a dispute over selection of candidates.

As it turned out, the council majority appointed three members of the commission, and the minority, two.

An informal poll indicated that Isen named Melville, Councilman Victor Benstead named Hogue, Beasley named Ford, Bradford named Brooks, and Draie named Schwab, former Torrance mayor.

The new commission will be activated on Oct. 16.

Torrance Bids Konya, Turkey, To Be 'Sister'

A formal invitation to Konya, Turkey, to become Torrance's international "sister city," was extended by the City Council in a resolution on Tuesday.

Choice of the Anatolian city with a population of 93,000, was made by a special citizens committee, which made its recommendation to the council after investigating several nominations.

The council enacted the resolution as part of President Eisenhower's "People to People" program for better international relations.

If the mayor of Konya, to whom the resolution was sent, approves of the plan, a program of interchange of ideas, communication and possible visits will be launched.

Trickery Used in Car Theft by Youngsters

Two 13-year-old boys, who pretended to have obtained the owner's permission, stole a car from a service station Monday.

The boys acted as if they had obtained permission to use the car from its owner, Irving Beren, owner of Holly Park National Paint Store, 1641 Cabrillo Ave., and drove off with the machine.

The car had been left at the gas station for servicing.

After the attendant told them they would have to obtain Beren's approval to use the car, the boys went into the store where they looked at some paints. Then they went to the gas station and announced they had permission to use the car and sped off.

CAR AGENCY BURGLARIZED

A pickup truck and a number of tools were stolen from Paul's Chevrolet, 1640 Cabrillo Ave., by a thief who broke off a padlock and gained entry into the fenced area. Total loot was estimated at more than \$2500.

Sale up For 'Y' Breakfast

The Torrance YMCA has sold more than 2,000 tickets to date in an attempt to hold the largest Annual YMCA Good Neighbor Breakfast in the history of Torrance.

The big meal, scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 18, will last from 6 until 11:30 a.m.

In order to entertain the hundreds of guests, the Torrance Area Youth Band will provide almost continuous music. PTA Mothersingers will also share in the entertainment. MC'd by ever-popular Bill Evans.

A number of attractive door prizes are being donated by local merchants to encourage every citizen to participate in this neighborhood affair.

Dr. Rollin Smith invited all citizens to submit letters to the YMCA naming their choice for the 1958 YMCA Al Turner Trophy, to be presented to the person selected as the outstanding "Good Neighbor" in the past year. All letters should be mailed in care of the YMCA at 2080 Washington Ave.

Exams Given for Police, Bus Jobs

Civil service examinations for policemen and bus drivers will be given by Torrance Nov. 1 in the Civic Auditorium.

Final date for filing applications for both tests will be Oct. 21 at 5 p.m.

Police jobs pay from \$461 to \$504 per month, while salary for bus operators ranges from \$2.20 to \$2.38 per hour.



SAFE JOB—Det. Miles Hamilton, left, and Sgt. Don Hamilton examine small roof hole at Torrance Hardware, 1513-15 Cabrillo Ave., which burglars entered to punch open safe inside office. They got \$303 from safe and approximately \$60 in merchandise. After they completed job, they crawled out the way they came in, through a 9 by 14 inch hole. Press Photo

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Mercy Flyers Safe in Emergency Landing



RESCUE FLIGHT—Bill Hetrick hands supplies to Zola Siegel as they took off for Mexico, Tuesday to bring spare airplane parts to two Torrance pilots who crash-landed there while on mercy mission. At right is Mrs. Robert Johnson, wife of the pilot stranded in Mexico. Press Photo

Rescue Party on Way to Aid Pilots

Two Torrance pilots who crash-landed in the Mexican wilderness Friday while on a mercy mission, are expected to return home later this week.

A rescue plane, carrying spare parts for the twin-Cessna used by Robert Johnson, 30, of 5305 Jacques St., and his co-pilot, Roland Swan, also of Torrance, departed for the isolated river bed 75 miles north of Hermosillo from Torrance Municipal Airport Tuesday to aid them.

In the meantime, Dr. Harry Reynolds, 59, of Riverside, passenger on the ill-fated flight, was found after a grueling, two-day hitchhiking trip to Hermosillo, where he sought aid for the stranded party.

Food Flight

Johnson, co-owner of West-Aero, Inc., an aviation firm at Torrance Airport, and Swan left here Friday, bound for Mazatlan to carry food to flood victims.

While crossing the mountain range from Yuma, they encountered engine trouble, and Johnson landed the plane in a river bed, damaging the tail assembly of the craft.

Two other pilots, Zola Siegel, a partner of Johnson's, and Bill Hetrick, aerial photographer for North American Aviation, left Torrance Tuesday morning to carry spare parts for the plane.

Mrs. Johnson said her husband and Swan will have to finish digging a makeshift runway from which the plane can take off after the repairs have been made. She said she expects them to return Friday or Saturday.

Sought Help

After the plane crash-landed, Dr. Reynolds hitched a ride to Hermosillo to summon help.

When he did not return after a reasonable interval, Johnson walked 30 miles, and then rode horseback for another 25 miles to Caborca, Sonora, looking for Dr. Reynolds. From Caborca, he called home and said he needed a new magneto and rotor for his plane, and some parts for the smashed tail assembly.

Dr. Arthur Gray of Inglewood, said that seven planes left here Friday to carry a ton of food as part of a mercy mission sponsored by LIGA made up mostly of flying doctors and dentists for emergency work.

Volunteered Flight

He said that Johnson and Swan volunteered to participate in the mission without charge to aid the work being done by LIGA, which is composed mostly of graduates of the College of Medical Evangelists.

Dr. Gray said that Johnson and Swan had repaired a bulldozer, belonging to a Mexican rancher, and started preparing a temporary runway, on which to take off.

Johnson and Swan had only about a cup of water when they started on foot for Caborca. They finally managed to borrow a couple of horses and completed their trip.



ROBERT JOHNSON

City Dads Irked by Stop Sign

Councilmen let off some steam Tuesday night, blasting stop signs, airport recommendations, and littered streets.

Councilman J. A. Beasley charged that Torrance has become "a city of boulevard stops." "Everytime a housewife wants to take her children across the street, she wants a boulevard stop," he claimed.

"This may come as a surprise to you, but I agree," chimed in Councilman Willy's Blount.

But their colleague, Robert Jahn, assured them that stop signs have been installed only after thorough investigation by the Traffic Commission, and all are warranted.

Councilman Victor Benstead charged there is too much confusion from airport recommendations from Airport Manager Jack Egan, the Airport Commission, and the airport committee of the City Council.

"Twice we received letters from the commission when we already had the same recommendations from the manager," he said. "I don't like it."

He also charged that lease terms at the airport are too low. "We're giving it away," Benstead grumbled.

Mayor Albert Isen claimed that a better enforcement be made to eliminate littered sidewalks in the downtown area. "Torrance is the dirtiest... with waste on the sidewalks," he claimed.

Council Approves Pay Hike

City employees received a 3% pay hike retroactive to Sept. 1, but City Councilmen took no action on requests for bonus pay for veteran city workers.

The salary increase will cost the city an estimated \$70,000 this fiscal year.

The last school bond issue was passed by Torrance voters in 1955. Since that time, seven new elementary schools and two high schools have been opened to house the growing number of children. Another six elementary schools now are under construction and will open within the next year.

At least one city employee expressed himself as unhappy over failure to obtain longevity pay.

"The whole thing stinks," said Jerry Hollomon, president of Local 1138 of the International Fire Fighters Union. "I wish I could speak for all our members in turning back the 3%."

City Manager George Stevens estimated that longevity pay for veteran employees would cost the city \$57,873 this year, but that it would go up to \$222,000 in four years.

He was instructed to study costs for uniform allowances, a widow's pension clause and addition of eight more policemen.

CATTLE ROUNDUP

Police and South Bay Humane Society officers participated in a cattle round-up early Friday, when approximately 50 animals were found wandering in the street at 190th St. and Burl Ave.

Ticket Hounds Memory of Policeman

Policeman Kenneth Halbert will be more careful next time he hands out a ticket, after the experience he went through Sunday night.

That's when the officer handed out a citation to a woman driver for running a boulevard stop at Anza Ave. and 190th St.

Everything went smoothly until Halbert asked the lady to sign the ticket.

Lawson Jewelers Launches Opening Sale Here Today

Lawson Jewelers will show off its tastefully decorated new store at 1301 Sartori Ave., today when it launches its three-day grand opening sale.

More than a score of valuable prizes will be given away during the grand opening celebration by the firm which is leading a general modernization program in downtown Torrance.

All lines of jewelry, watches, diamonds, radios, appliances, camera equipment and luggage departments have been expanded to keep pace with the growth of the 20-store chain, fastest growing in Southern California, according to Abe Robinson, vice president.

The Torrance store has been located at 1317 El Prado for the past eight years, and is now headquartered in a completely modern store at the corner of El Prado and Sartori.

Both the exterior of the building, and the well appointed interior have been tastefully designed to assure the utmost shopping comforts. One of the interior features is that seating has been provided for greater shopping pleasure.

Robinson extended an invitation to the firm's many customers. (Continued on Page Two)



MODERN NEW STORE—Modern inside and outside is the new Lawson Jewelers store, 1301 Sartori Ave., which starts a three-day grand opening sale today. In keeping with the growth of the firm, new lines have been added in nearly all departments. Press Photo

Burglars Loot Revival Tent

A revival tent at 164th St. and Crenshaw Blvd. was looted of electronics equipment, as burglars hit seven places over the weekend.

Missing from the tent used by the Seventh Day Adventists, were two portable speakers, an electric cord and a staple gun, police reported.

Several razors and a radio were taken from a barber shop at 815 Border Ave., while the cigarette machine and juke box in a cafe at 3570 Pacific Coast Hwy. were pried open for \$2 in loot, officers said.

Cash amounting to \$30 was taken from the home of Calvin E. Jett, 4029 W. 183rd St., while eight cans of beer were stolen from the home of Joseph F. Little, 2714 W. 177th St.

The home of Jerome Lembergor, 4103 W. 174th St. was entered, but nothing taken, officers said.