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Close Race Expected in Election

Our Recommendations



GEORGE VICO

No one ever waits for George Vico. Before sunrise he is up and shaking the day loose from its moorings. By the time most people are thinking of the first cup of coffee, he has the morning in orbit.

President Truman's morning walks would be a lullaby beside Vico's canter along Torrance beach at sunup to charge his corpuscles for a full day of activity.

His appointments always are kept, his promises never forgotten, for his mind is alert and aware at all times. His perceptiveness of things that need doing is matched only by his ability to get them done. He cuts through red tape like a cavalry charge and comes up with a result while the remainder of the interested parties are in conference.

If he loves anything more than the city itself, it is the youth of Torrance. Never has he been too busy to attend to the needs of children. Who else could bring Carl Furillo here for an evening to hand out baseballs and talk to the Babe Ruth League?

Who else could bring the Los Angeles Rams here for the high-school players' All-America City Awards banquet? Who else could bring Roy Campanella here in a fund drive for crippled children? As a result of Vico's campaign, the Harlan Shoemaker therapy pool—only one in the area—goes into construction this month.

When the Little League needed a place to play two months ago, Vico had the Entradero sump filled and leveled to provide for 10 diamonds. He accomplished this with one phone call. He has arranged for gifts of acre after acre to the city for public recreation.

The first time at bat for the Detroit Tigers in 1948 Vico hit a home run. And he has been hitting homers every time at bat during his long residence in Torrance.

A vote for Vico is a vote for victory for youth—and assurance of a decisive square deal for every citizen in the city.

Inside The Press

A complete list of candidates and their photographs appears in today's edition of The Press. Study their background and their stand on the issues before casting your ballot Tuesday.

Elsewhere in today's edition:

Mike Callan 3-B Real Estate 7-A
Classified 4-7-B Schools 2-A
Entertainment 7-A Sports 3-B
Letters 4-B Women 2-B



ROBERT B. JAHN

Of all councilmen who have protected the city's resources from the demands of special-interest groups, Robert B. Jahn stands alone.

Although utterly fearless in knocking out selfish demands, his rare sense of humor and flawless manners have endeared him even to those he has defeated in the interest of Torrance.

His inexhaustible energy has kept him on the job—both as head of his own contracting business and at his city post—when most men would have quit. The night his business associates were killed crashing Jahn's plane, he stayed at Council, and attended to what he was doing.

Consistently the leader, Bob Jahn is not above following any lead that has merit. He quickly seconded Councilman Drale's motion to remove downtown parking meters, having researched the issue well ahead of time.

No one has brought more diligence to bear on airport improvement than Bob Jahn. He constantly has taken the initiative in bringing the right kind of commerce and industry to the field. His knowledge of building and engineering has been of inestimable value in planning business and tract development.

When the prosperity of Torrance is involved, Jahn displays a refreshing lack of concern over the bleats of the vested interests. His capacity for research and ability to see possibilities missed by others are extraordinary. His vote is consistently sensible, defensible and thoroughly explained.

He will do anyone a favor when it will harm no one else to do so.

His dedication to the city would be sufficient in itself to command the vote of the majority. Add to this a warm cordiality, a facility for meeting people and making friends, a brilliant mind, and the result is a top public-relations expert and business manager in one.

Since the needs of the city are changeable, his stand is flexible. Jahn at this time is opposed to the ward system as a generator of corrupt politics. If the city needs political districts in later years, his view can change.

Bob Jahn has said he will stand on his record. He could not be on more solid footing if he were standing on Gibraltar.

TRANSPORTATION TO POLLS OFFERED

George Vico is the only candidate to announce transportation to the polls for Torrance voters.

Through arrangement with Paul's Chevrolet, Vel's Ford, and DeVon Plymouth dealers, all on Cabrillo, new-car transportation will be provided free to voters needing a ride.

Cars may be obtained by calling Vico's office, FR 5-4789.



NICKOLAS O. DRALE

Nick Drale enjoys the esteem of the entire city as the most well known Councilman. He sees to it that the underdog gets the same consideration as the pressure group, and his voting record over 12 years as Councilman and Mayor reflects progress, fairness and impartiality.

A huge and powerful man, Nick Drale is the kindest and most considerate of all city functionaries. Who else in the entire campaign has thought to write "Thank You" at the bottom of every one of his signs, cards, and posters?

Nick Drale has had it at every stratum of life's experience. A former steelworker, he knows first-hand the problems, hopes and ambitions of every working man.

Having become a real-estate broker the hard way, he knows the difficulties that beset the businessman.

With all his years in the city's service, he likewise knows intimately the problems of government, the issues, and the needs of the city. He waits on no one to take the initiative, whether he is arguing for a city-charter amendment or fetching a chair for someone who is standing.

Nothing bothers Nick Drale so much as another person's discomfort.

He will be No. 1 on the returns, for no one has had reason to try to poke holes in his record as a public servant, and no one can find anything about Nick to dislike.

Drale is for the people and for the city. If anyone ever is rubbed the wrong way by his vote, it is because he is considering the greatest good for the greatest number. Last month it was he who moved to get rid of Torrance's greatest irritation—parking meters. He will get rid of them after election. A vote for Nick Drale is a vote for good sense, economy, and fair representation.

Baseball Day May 7; Vico Will Bring Dodgers Here

With consent of the City Council, Mayor Isen has declared May 7 as Baseball Day in Torrance.

This year for the first time in Torrance baseball history, the 16 leagues—three Babe Ruth, five Pony, eight Little Leagues—are joining in the plans for a gala Baseball Day.

The spectacle of 3300 boys in new uniforms will highlight a parade to begin at 11 a.m. at Maricopa and Crenshaw Blvd.

The parade will proceed down Crenshaw to Torrance Blvd., then to Madrona.

Also featured in the parade will be floats entered by each of the leagues represented, the Torrance-Area Youth Band, twirling units, and the Torrance Babe Ruth team, which won the Southern California champion-

ship last year. A committee of Torrance notables headed by George Vico is arranging to have Dodger stars present at the Baseball Day festivities. Before the parade begins, Miss Baseball and Miss Little League will be chosen from candidates entered by each of the leagues. The floats also will be judged before the parade and trophies awarded for the most original, most beautiful and best theme. A Baseball Day ceremony will be staged immediately after the parade at the Civic Center, north of the City Hall. At this time the queens will be announced, the trophies presented, and Dodger stars introduced. Following the ceremony, many of the leagues will hold opening games.

Incumbents Given Edge

A close race for three City Council seats in Tuesday's election is being predicted by those closely associated with the Torrance political scene.

Best informed sources give the incumbents a 20% edge over newcomers. Nick Drale and Robert B. Jahn were seen as favorites. Victor Benstead, also an incumbent, has conducted a quieter campaign.

Among outsiders George Vico, who has been a strong friend of Torrance and its youth, appeared to be among the best known. Others who are expected to draw a bulk of votes are Rose Craig, Dave Figueredo, and Thirvin Fleetwood.

Mrs. Craig, only woman in the race, has no enemies and has conducted a clean campaign. Figueredo pulled heavily in the last election, and Fleetwood has been active in Democrat politics.

John Barton likewise may make a considerable showing as a result of his widespread group activities, including his spot as chairman of the City-to-City Committee which brought the major of Konya, Turkey here recently.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The winners will be known Tuesday night. If the race is as close as it is predicted, it might be Wednesday morning. You may call The Press at DA 5-1515 Tuesday for unofficial results after 7 p.m.

For MEMBER of the CITY COUNCIL

Vote for Three

Victor E. Benstead, Jr. Incumbent	
DRALE Incumbent	X
JAHN Incumbent	X
Paul R. Albright, Jr. Pumper	
John J. Barton Attorney	
Garth Belknap High School Teacher	
Jeff W. Bell Welder	
Henry (Hank) Carreiro Law Student	
James (Chic) Cicchini Real Estate Salesman	
Rose Craig Realtor	
David Viera Figueredo Service Station Operator	
Thirvin D. Fleetwood Planning Commissioner	
R. (Pat) Hogue Sheet Metal Foreman	
Walter J. Keberlein Escrow Holder	
George Kurtz Attorney at Law	
VICO Public Relations	X