

Giant Parachutes Used to Demonstrate Planetary Principle at El Camino

Giant cargo parachutes figured prominently this week in campus seminars in physics conducted by Jesse Platts of the El Camino College faculty.

The chute, suspended from the ceiling of Room 7 of the Physics Building, represented the background of the skies of the western hemisphere. Stars were projected upon the background. For each of the seminar lectures, 22 star-gazers were seated beneath the huge canopy.

CONCEIVES IDEA
Platts conceived his idea for the seminar experiment from principles utilized at Griffith Planetarium in Los Angeles. He used ultra-violet, blue and red lamps, a projector that flashed sunrises on the heavens and a tiny globe with holes punctured in it signifying stars.

Over 400 tiny holes set exactly in a ratio as their fixed positions in the heavens are on the globe. When the bright light is turned on in-

side the globe in total darkness, the parachute "heavens" overhead reflect exactly the appearance of a night sky in California.

Visitors to the seminar were placed underneath the parachute, where they could identify their favorite constellations and groups of stars. After the seminar visitors were shown the principals of the planetarium and were able to experiment for themselves.

Parents May 'Sponsor' Golf Teams At Three Torrance High Schools

Although golf has been discontinued as a varsity sport at Torrance's three high schools this year, parents may pay for and sponsor a "golf club" which would compete in the C.I.F. competition.

That was what parents of golfers were told Tuesday night at the Torrance Board of Education meeting.

Because of the tight budget, golf was discontinued as a varsity sport because of its high cost per pupil and because only about 20 pupils

were involved. Teacher time was switched to allow smaller math classes, the parents were told, although golf still is taught in physical education classes.

Parents were told that golf costs \$276 per student, as compared with \$117 for football; \$123 for basketball; \$122 for baseball; and \$77 for track. Primary reasons for the high cost of golf are equipment, green fees, and transportation to golf courses. In addition, very few students are involved, official said.

However, parents were told, a check with C.I.F. officials indicated that parents could sponsor and pay for a group which would compete in C.I.F. competition.

Board President William Boswell noted that this is one of the ways the district is seeking to save money.



CONSTITUTION DEBATED — In honor of Bill of Rights Week, students at Madison Elementary School drew up their own school constitution after studying the American Constitution. Here, during one of the de-

bates, Richard Schwartz and Ronnie Morad discuss one of the articles. In back are Denny Myren, chairman, and Alan Gayda, speaker.

Area Poultryman Given Fine by Torrance Court

For failure to prevent fly breeding and for failure to keep chicken pens in a sanitary condition, Kenneth L. Christofferson, 3516 Emerald Street, owner of a poultry ranch in Torrance, was last week fined fifty dollars and given a suspended sentence of 180 days in Torrance Municipal Court at a trial presided over by Judge Donald Armstrong.

The complaint was filed by David W. Colfelt, chief sanitarian of the Torrance Health District, Los Angeles County Health Department.

Colfelt stated that numerous attempts were made to correct the unsanitary conditions through the Department's educational and consultant services before charges were made. He said the courts are used as a last resort after every other method has failed to correct the situation.

Sales-Use Tax Money Received

The city of Torrance this week received a check from the State Board of Equalization for \$303,800 as its share of sales tax money collected during the third quarter of 1960.

Money was the city's share of \$56,000,000 distributed in two installments during the fourth quarter of 1960 to the 55 counties and 340 cities that had contracted before July 1

for state administration of their local sales and use taxes. Advance payments of almost \$50,000,000 were made in November; final payments of \$6,300,000 just before Christmas.

The cities received \$42,738,000 as their share of the one percent levy on third quarter business and the counties received \$8,994,000. Better than two fifths of the total went to jurisdictions in Los Angeles County.

Total sales tax revenue distributed to Los Angeles County amounted to \$1,770,951. Amounts received by other cities were: Redondo Beach, \$170,219;

Palos Verdes Estates, \$6,392; Long Beach, \$1,184,962; Gardena, \$120,147; and Manhattan Beach, \$52,563.

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Rubbish Pickup Delayed During Holiday Period

Because Christmas falls on a Sunday, Torrance city employees will be granted the following Monday, December 26, as a holiday. It was reported yesterday by city officials.

Torrance residents are advised that the rubbish collection schedule during the holiday season will be one day late. Rubbish normally collected on Monday will be picked up on Tuesday, and Friday's trash will be collected on Saturday.

Since New Year's Day also falls on a Sunday, the holiday schedule for rubbish collection will be one day late during this week also. Rubbish normally collected on Monday, January 2, will be collected the following day, and the Friday collections will be picked up on Saturday, January 7.



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