

# Population Is Major Factor in City's Future

The hotly contested proposal to rezone 155 acres near the intersection of Crenshaw and Sepulveda from industrial to residential usage will be brought before the City Council Tuesday night.

Don Wilson, prominent Southland builder, has indicated that he will construct more than 600 homes in the area provided that the council agrees to rezone the land.

Opponents to the plan support the contention that the city is running short of industrial land and that the acreage should be retained in its present M-2 classification, awaiting the day that some industry takes notice and decides to move in. Members of the city's planning commission have gone along with this idea and have voted 6-1 to recommend against changing the property's zoning classification.

#### READY FOR YEARS

Yet proponents of the plan to build homes on the weed-covered parcels have pointed out, with unflinching logic, that this land has been available for industrial development for many years but has not been utilized.

Opposition to the measure paint glowing pictures of the huge amount of industrial taxes that will be gleaned, SOMEDAY, when the acreage is developed.

Civic minded residents who support the move to rezone point out that new homes and new residents in this city would take upon their shoulders a part of the stifling tax burden already carried by homeowners. With a "bird in the hand" philosophy, they point out that residential taxes NOW are far better for the community than a gout of industrial taxes in some distant, and quite possibly imagined, future.

#### OTHER USES

Available land for industry has been reduced considerably in the past four years. Yet the large majority of this available industrial land was not used for industry

at all!

Largest proportion of this M-zoned land that has disappeared from the available list has been re-classified and is presently being used for commercial purposes.

Many of the community's newest shopping centers and discount houses are nestled, quite comfortably, on industrial land.

Yet a project that would provide new customers for these commercial stores, which were gladly received by the same people who are presently opposed to developing the Marble Estate tract, and which would provide an economic boost to the community, is being opposed.

#### NO TAXES

Petitions are presently being circulated stating that rezoning of this area would bring about a hike in taxes, yet virtually no taxes are presently being paid on this undeveloped land.

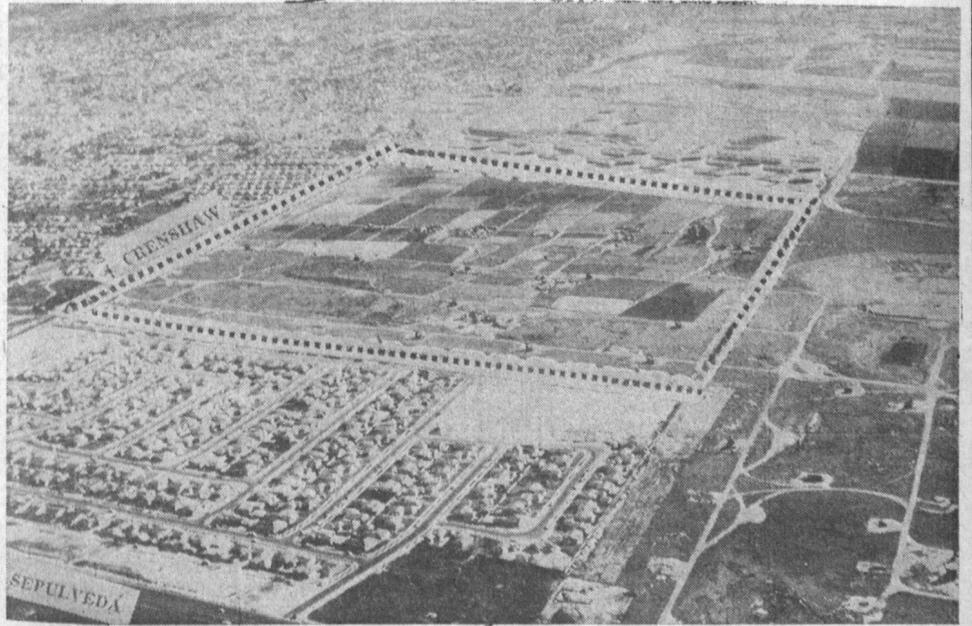
Revenues derived from the development of the tract into homesites would certainly offset the present high tax rate in this community.

Considerable opposition to the plan to rezone this industrial area from M-2 to R-1 classification have been noted by members of the local school board, who have reported that they MAY have to build a new school in the area if the homes are constructed.

Yet the building of new schools should not be a deterrent to progress, nor should it halt the exciting growth of Torrance.

This city's population has expanded by 400 percent over the last decade, a fact that has made it outstanding throughout the United States and has brought the title of All-American City here.

If the building of a new school was a factor in the equation the city of Torrance would have died on the vine many years ago instead of becoming the thriving, progressive community it is.



AIR VIEW OF ACREAGE—Controversial Marble Estates area, subject of a request for a zone change from industrial to residential classification, is shown here outlined on aerial photo. Land is located just north of the municipal airport near the

intersection of Crenshaw and Sepulveda. Opponents and proponents to the measure are expected to lock horns Tuesday evening at the weekly city council session. Final decision on the proposal rests with the council.

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VOLUME XIII, NUMBER 19

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 1961

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# Raging Man Slashes Wife, Holds Officers at Bay with Shotgun

## Surrenders Meekly as Officers Enter House

An enraged husband Friday night slashed his wife's hand with a razor sharp knife, chased her out of the house, and then stood off a hurriedly-summoned officer with two loaded shotguns before submitting

meekly to arrest. Booked at Torrance police station on charges of assault with a deadly weapon was Glenard G. Potts, 32, 2054 W. 166th St.

Investigating officers reported that Potts had apparently been drinking when he got into an argument with his wife Shirley, 23, and, during the course of the argument, slashed her wrist with the knife.

Terrified, the woman fled from the house, then called police.

#### BARRICADED

Tom Pattishall, first officer on the scene said that the woman told him her

husband had barricaded himself in the house with the two shotguns and that their 3-year old child was sleeping inside.

Pattishall approached the house and ordered the man to come out but the suspect refused and confirmed the fact that he had the guns.

A short time later, however, the officer heard the front door being unlocked. When he entered the house he found the suspect sitting meekly in the front room and the two guns standing in a corner.

Potts was arrested on complaints filed by his wife. Child was found, still sleeping, in the house.

## Two Gunmen Rob Torrance Liquor Store Of \$537

Two gunmen, one armed with a 80-30 rifle, held up a north Torrance liquor store owner Friday night, and made their escape with \$537 and two fifths of whisky.

Simon Rother, owner of Sams Liquor, 3709 W. 190th St., reported that two youths, both about 18-years of age, came into his store, pointed guns at him and said,

"This is a stickup. Get away from the cash register."

When he complied, he said the two rifled the cash register of the day's receipts.

While the holdup was in progress, Rother reported, a 14-year old youngster also entered the store and was held.

Telling Rother and the youth not to call police the two made their escape.

Description of the two bandits filed at Torrance Police Station indicated that the suspects were both in their late teens, were about 5'8" or 5'9", and were dressed in sport clothes.



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## 'Portable Hospital' Comes To Torrance CD Wednesday

Culminating almost two years of effort on the part of Civil Defense officials, a portable 200-bed hospital will be delivered to Torrance next Wednesday. This hospital will be maintained by the Area G Civil Defense Medical Service for use as needed in time of disaster.

It consists of all equipment, including medicines, required for a 200-bed hospital. The total weight of the unit is 24,000 pounds valued in excess of \$25,000.

Dr. Arnold Niemeyer, Area G Medical Chief, said "This hospital will materially increase the capability of our medical service in the event of a major disaster."

#### VITAL EQUIPMENT

Dr. Philip Halloran, chief of the Torrance sub-area medical service, likewise expressed his pleasure, stating that this valuable adjunct to the hospital facilities of the Centinela valley and South Bay areas would materially assist in the expeditious care and treatment of victims of disaster.

Capt. Joseph Rochefort, co-

ordinator for Civil Defense, stated that the acquisition of this vital equipment was the result of unremitting efforts on the part of the Area G Civil Defense and Disaster planning board of which John Bramhall, acting city manager of Torrance, is chairman, of Mayor Isen and of the entire medical profession.

Hospital, consisting of 354 cases, will be stored in the through the cooperation of the U. S. Navy and will be available for use as required. It can be transported and set up in a matter of hours as an emergency hospital. The positioning of this medical facility is part of the OCDM program of stock piling medical supplies for use in case of enemy attack. The selection of Area G as a site was the result of a survey conducted by civil defense officials which indicated "the strong capability of the Area G medical organization.

"The action of the Federal government reflects great credit on city officials in Area G and the public-spirited citizens who are working tirelessly to protect our people."

### PACIFIC PLAZA FETED . . .

## Superior Court Architect Guest of Chamber Tuesday

Fred G. Adams, architect and co-owner of the firm of Adams, Morgan, Latham, Kripp and Wright of Long Beach, will be a special guest of the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday morning at the regular breakfast meeting at the International House of Pancakes.

Adams will discuss the new Superior Court building to be located in the Torrance Civic Center.

Last month the County Board of Supervisors, on the recommendation of Supervisor Burton W. Chace, awarded the engineering and architectural design of the new court to the Long Beach firm. Civic Center site for the court was selected by a panel of judges over two other proposed locations.

#### PACIFIC PLAZA

Also to be honored at the Tuesday breakfast meeting will be the newly opened Pacific Plaza shopping center and new members of the Chamber.

In a second announcement, Chamber President William Shawger reported that William Greenawalt, local manager of the Southern Califor-

nia Edison Co., has been appointed to the chairmanship of the Program of Work committee.

He will replace former Chairman John Schmidt, vice president of Pacific Smelting, who resigned because of pressing business obligations.

Purpose of the Program of Work committee, said Greenawalt, is to chart the various projects and activities the Chamber is interested in carrying out for the benefit of Torrance and its citizens.

It plans the course of action of future activity of the organization and it serves to challenge the membership and helps mobilize the manpower and resources for action. It serves to keep the membership looking forward, efficiently and systematically carrying out the activities of the Chamber.

## Bandaged Bandit Holds Up Market; Flees With \$175

A Torrance market was held up Thursday by two gunmen who made their escape in broad daylight carrying \$175 of the day's receipts.

One of the bandits, wearing a bandage across his nose and cheek, came into the Boulevard Market, 4505 Torrance Blvd., a few minutes before the holdup to purchase a package of cigarettes.

Shortly after leaving with his purchase he returned with a companion and pointed a gun at owner Vera Lopez and customer Ross Brock. Forcing the two to lie

down on the floor the bandit and his accomplice rifled the cash register and fled.

#### AWARDS DINNER

Torrance Park and Recreation officials this week announced that the fifth annual National Recreation Recognition Awards dinner will be held in the Terrace Room of the Jump 'N Jack Restaurant, 2900 Pacific Coast Highway, next Wednesday.

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ARSENAL INSPECTED—Officers P. Lembke and R. Silagy of Torrance PD here inspect two shotguns taken from an irate resident Friday night. Suspect Glenard G. Potts, 32 of 2054 W. 166th St., first slashed wrist of

wife, Shirley, 23, forced her out of house, and then held off arresting officers with the two guns. Suspect finally gave himself up after officers ordered him to come out of the house.

## Torrance 'Jobs-for-Youngsters' Program Serving As Prototype For Other Areas

Development of the Youth Employment Service at the Torrance office of the Department of Employment, has served as a prototype at other department offices, it was learned this week.

Identical services are now in operation for Redondo, Hermosa, Manhattan Beach Peninsula, Gardena Valley and Lomita-Harbor City youths seeking summer jobs.

This is a self-help operation with the community supplying jobs that need to be done and youth working at whatever rate of pay is appropriate for the assignment. Entire program is

run by youth with supervision and assistance of professional personnel from the Department of Employment in Torrance.

Youth Employment Service offices will be operated by teenagers who have been trained by the Department of Employment in cooperation with local schools.