

# \$13 Million Budget OKed for Schools

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# Council OK's Weird Structure, Vote 4-3

## 'Go-Ahead' After Artist Submits Plans

A tacit "go-ahead" was given last night by the city council to plans to construct a huge ornamental "tree" on the Jefferson leasehold, near the corner of Crenshaw and Pacific Coast Hwy.

By a bare 4-3 vote the Councilman George Bradford to allow the creator of the huge steel and wood framework to continue with his "sculpture," provided that he accept the city's engineering requirements for roadside signs.

Pointing out that their artistic feelings had been hurt by referring to their creation as a "sign," the builders of the "tree," however, readily accepted the nomenclature if they could continue work.

INSPECTION  
Additional stipulations by the council included the submission of an artist's rendition of the structure to the city's engineering department as well as specifications as to size, complete inspection and approval of the structure by Public Works Director Lee Schless, and assurances that the "Thing" will be removed within six months unless the council grants a stay.

Asked by councilmen why

he referred to the half-finished structure as the "thing," he wryly stated: "I just don't dig this stuff myself."

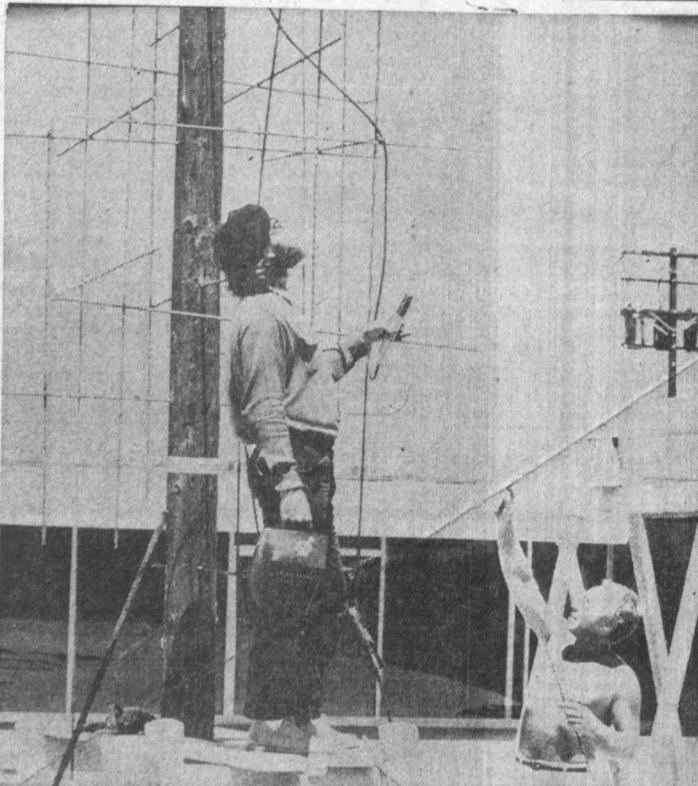
In a second action the council approved a resolution which would allow it to proceed with condemnation actions to acquire the necessary land to take the mid-town kink out of Carson St.

Land, which is known as Carson Park, is allegedly owned by the Remo-Real Estate Management Company and is subject to an easement for park purposes to the city.

Move was recommended by City Manager Wade Peebles and was carried by a 5-to-2 vote.

Condemnation will allow the city to acquire right of entry.

CHANGE OF SCENE  
The Torrance Marine Corps recruiting office this week announced that it has moved from the main post office building to 2165 Torrance Blvd. in the downtown part of the city. S/Sgt. Ernie Hayes and S/Sgt. Rick Rickman reported that the same services, including information for college students and enlistments, will be available.



"OBJECT D'ART?"—City Councilmen last night put their tongues in their cheeks and facetiously oked continuance of the ornamental iron "tree" currently under construction at Crenshaw and Pacific Coast Hwy. Impressionistic structure is being built by Rog-

er Pancake, above, and was designed by artist Otho Pettyjohn, below. Attorney John P. Barry, who representing the leaseholders at the council meeting, wryly admitted he "didn't dig this stuff."



HOME AT LAST—Five-month-old Mary Dolores Quinones, daughter of Magdalena and Jose Quinones, Monday was released from Torrance Memorial Hospital after a going-away party given by nurses. Infant, survivor of a set of premature girl twins, weighed

only one pound, four ounces at birth and was the smallest known surviving infant on record. Newspaper and television cameras covered her release from the hospital. Now weighing 5 pounds, 8 ounces, the infant is normal in every way, hospital officials said.

### MONDAY NIGHT ACTION . . .

## Board of Education Approves New Budget, OK's Fees for Adult Education Classes

Highpoint in Monday night's meeting of the Board of Education of the Torrance Unified School District was approval of the 1961-62 budget, followed by agreement to separate English and social studies classes, charge fees for adult education classes, and revision of the grade reporting system.

Final action was taken to approve the 1961-62 school budget. The expenditures will amount to \$12,139,841, over six and one-half million of which represents salaries paid teachers. The final budget was some \$186,000 less than the original budget submitted in July, representing proposed economies in operation costs, but Superintendent J. H. Hull stated that further reductions would have an immediate adverse affect upon the children in the classroom. "There is a point beyond which economies can become simply cheapness. When we reach this level, we have deteriorated services to children and put off necessary expenses which will become larger costs later." He warned that the District may be approaching or may have possibly reached that point to a degree.

### RESERVES UP

Some \$300,000 is being added to the \$900,000 reserve balance with which the District began this year and is available for salary increases. The Board is considering raising salaries from three to four per cent. The remainder of this reserve is needed according to school officials, to meet emergencies that may occur and to pay salaries from July 1 until taxes can be collected and deposited later in the school year. The total budget figure, including the reserve, is \$13,356,890.

A report by Hull with respect to separation of English and social studies classes was made. Assignment of students and teachers, upon direction of the Board of Education, has been in process since July 18 and is eighty-five per cent complete. It is planned that all high school students will be assigned separate classes by the time school begins on September 13.

Through Board action, a fee of \$3 per course, per semester, will be charged adult education students in the Torrance Evening High School for each non-academic subject offered beginning in September. Such fee will not be charged for academic classes in which a student enrolls for the purpose of obtaining a high school diploma. Further exemptions for fee payment are those students who are under 21 and over 55 years of age and foreign born students enrolled in courses of English and American citizenship.

Unanimous approval, with minor changes, was made by the Board of Education in the reorganization of the reporting system for the District. Each elementary student in

## Torrance Area Bookie Suspects To Enter Pleas

Pleas on charges of book-making and conspiracy will be made during the coming week by a Torrance man and three area companions at preliminary hearings.

Quartet were among 10 persons arrested during a crackdown in two counties, Los Angeles and Ventura, by district attorney's investigators.

Nick Lococo, 38, of 4742 Sharynne Lane, will enter his preliminary plea today. Other suspects, Caesar Coulon, 51, of Gardena, Sherwood Barkdull, 40, Hawthorne, and Harold L. Luce, 36, of Manhattan Beach, will enter pleas between today and September 15.

Each of the suspects is free on \$1,050 bail. Hearings will be conducted in Los Angeles Municipal Court.

grades one through eight will receive letter grades once each quarter for each subject based on their performance in comparison to class averages. A special column is included for the purpose of evaluating the amount of effort put forth by each child based on his own individual capabilities.



CRACKUP DURING WARMUP — Preparing for annual "Piston Poppers" meet next weekend at South High School, Dick Kennedy, above, was faced with a minor calamity when his hopped-up little entry suffered a

bent wing. A touch of cement repaired the damage, however, and entry will fly again Sunday. Between 150 and 300 entries from Southern California and Nevada are expected to take part in the meet.

### \$423,000 ESTIMATE . . .

## Storm Drain Construction Bids Will Be Opened Friday on 4 North Torrance Units

Construction bids for two major bond issue projects in the Torrance area will be opened by Flood Control District officials next Friday morning it was announced this week by Supervisor Kenneth Hahn's chief deputy, William N. Stivers.

The largest of the two projects, the Torrance Bond Issue drain, project 586, will be built in four sections, of which three are in North Torrance, which is included in the second supervisory district represented by Supervisor Hahn. A small portion of the overall project 586 is in the fourth supervisory district, represented by Supervisor Burton Chace. The second project,

which was combined with project 586 is the Waleria storm drain, project 585, which is entirely in the fourth district.

Line A of the Torrance drain will be built south on Glenburn avenue in North Torrance from an existing drain a short distance south of Artesia boulevard. It will extend south to 182nd, crossing west on 182nd street to Prairie avenue.

### END FLOODING

Supervisor Hahn's office pointed out that construction of this line will eliminate the severe flooding of 182nd street which occurs with every rain of any size. A small portion of the drain, passing under the San Diego freeway has already been built as an integral part of the freeway construction.

Line B of the drain starts at Dominguez channel at Crenshaw boulevard and then extends north in Crenshaw to Redondo Beach boulevard.

Line C begins at Dominguez channel at Crenshaw and extends south for approx-

imately 300 feet, then southwest to Elgar avenue and 168th street, then south in Elgar to 170th street.

These three sections of the drainage system will all carry storm waters to a newly improved section of Dominguez channel.

The fourth unit of the project is in the downtown Torrance area and begins at an existing drain in Torrance boulevard at Engracia avenue, then extends west to Madrid avenue.

The entire project was allocated \$488,800 in the 1953 bond issue, of which the North Torrance portions were allotted \$423,300.

Plans were prepared under the direction of Torrance City Engineer Walter N. Nollac.

### YOUTH KILLED

A young motorist was killed last week and his five companions were injured when his car plunged off an embankment in Palos Verdes. Pronounced dead on arrival at San Pedro Community Hospital was Arthur Arroyo Jr., 15, of Artesia.

## Park, Recreation Commission Will Study '61-62 Youth Band Contract

Terms of the 1961-62 contract between the city and

the Torrance Area Youth Band will be discussed tonight at the Park and Recreation Commission meeting in City Hall.

Contract, which would allow a \$2500 contribution to the Youth Band from the city, was referred to the commission for study by City Manager Wade Peebles.

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## Annual Aquacade August 9-12 Benstead Plunge

Benstead Municipal Plunge, Torrance, will be closed for public recreational swimming from Wednesday, Aug. 9, through Saturday, Aug. 12, according to the Torrance Recreation Department.

The pool will be closed in preparation for the sixth annual aquacade, this year with the theme, "Tales of Paul Bunyan."

A cast of 100 swimmers, comic divers, dancers, and other talent will perform in the show.

The following week, regular pool hours, 1 to 4:30 p.m. and 7 to 9:30 p.m. daily, will be resumed. The pool is open Saturdays from 10 to 12 and from 1 to 5 p.m., Sunday hours are 1 to 5 p.m.