

# School Bond Issue Loses By 22 Votes

TORRANCE — A long-sought bond issue to provide \$3 million in school building funds was defeated Tuesday by a narrow 22-vote margin. Voters cast 6211 yes votes and 3137 no votes, but a two-thirds majority (6233 votes) was needed for adoption.

School board members were deflated by the outcome, but immediately announced plans for a new election.

Said board chairman Albert Charles:

"This is an unfortunate circumstance, but it doesn't solve our problem. We still need schools, and I guess we'll keep on trying."

Final ballots were returned on the 34th and last precinct shortly after 9 p.m. Polls closed at 7.

**'GRINDING HALT'**  
School officials earlier predicted a "grinding halt" to construction at Torrance Elementary School, Tor-

## Parents Win Fight Against Speed Hike

TORRANCE — Worried parents have won the city's promise it won't hike speed limits on Calle Mayor.

Councilmen rejected a proposed increase from 25 to 35 miles an hour, disapproving a plea by Traffic Engineer James O. Whitmer to up the limit on a trial basis.

"We feel an increase in speed limit actually will reduce the average speed," Whitmer said.

Residents along the stretch of roadway from Sepulveda to Pacific Coast Highway, however, said the street is traveled at high speed endangering the lives of neighborhood children.

"It's an unbroken roadway," said William McLoughlin, a resident in the area concerned.

Whitmer had asked to increase the speed limit to help combat highspeed driving.

"Studies have shown," he said, "that drivers will stay within a realistic speed limit, but are more inclined to speed in zones which are under-posted."

Shirley Jensen, another area resident, said, "I only want to pull out of my driveway." She indicated she cannot because of cars traveling at too high a rate of speed.

Councilmen rejected the proposed upgrading unanimously.

rance High School and Victory Elementary School should the bond issue fail.

Money also was to be used to add classrooms to all Torrance High Schools, to build three new elementary schools and to make addition to at least five elementary schools.

Construction is necessary, according to school officials, to meet an estimated 6000 new students expected to be enrolled in Torrance schools by 1965.

**USED UP**  
All money authorized by a 1953 bond issue will be used up in January, with much of it already paid off in yearly payments.

Bert Lynn, board member, blamed defeat of the issue on downtown interests, where he said many voters are not concerned with welfare of the city's youth.

W. J. Hanson said earlier that local communities failing to provide adequate education for their children may prompt the federal government to take over.

**HIGHER COSTS**  
"This would mean a loss of local control and higher costs, because we would

## Three Hurt In Accident Near Torrance

TORRANCE — Three persons were hurt, one seriously, in a traffic accident Monday at Vermont Ave. and Sepulveda Blvd., the California Highway Patrol reported.

Most seriously injured was Patricia Walton, 27, a Wilmington resident. She was taken to Harbor General Hospital with multiple bruises, a forehead cut and possible chest injuries.

Accident investigators said Miss Walton was riding in a car driven by Elouise M. Bowen, 25, also of Wilmington, when it collided with an auto driven by Norman L. Mossburgh, 26, Wilmington.

Mrs. Bowen suffered multiple bruises and Teresa Bowen, 3, was treated for a cut forehead.

Mossburgh escaped injury, officers said.

have to pay for the extra level of federal supervision," he said.

Dr. Kurt Shery, board member, said, "It is unthinkable that we would not meet our obligation as citizens in this respect."

Nine absentee ballots still remain to be counted, but they could not alter the results.

## 2 Astronauts Set Visit at Airport Days

TORRANCE — Space fans may get a firsthand look at astronauts Gus Grissom and Alan Shepherd during this month's observance of Airport Days.

The pair has been invited to attend the two-day celebration Sept. 29 and 30 and to lead a parade of dignitaries participating in a variety of programs.

**PHONE CONTACT**  
Walker Mahurin, backer of a projected Air Museum here, told a Chamber of Commerce breakfast Tuesday that he has had telephone contact with Shepherd, and that confirmation should be forthcoming.

Mahurin is chairman of the board of a Claremont air museum hoping to relocate in Torrance, and also serves as deputy director for advanced programs in the Space and Information Division, North American Aviation.

**ONLY B-17**  
Portions of Mahurin's Claremont display will be on exhibit, he said, during the upcoming Airport Days event. The collection includes a score of antique planes and the world's only known B-17 remaining.

Aviationland, projected to include the Air Museum and a related display by Tallmantz Aviation Co., would be a non-profit, educational tourist attraction, Mahurin said.

Its establishment currently is undergoing study by the city's Airport Commission.

### Low Bidder Named

WALTERIA — Radco Construction Co. of Los Angeles has submitted the low bid for construction of Walteria Lake storm drain.

The bid was \$975,724, according to county supervisors.



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# School Board Won't Back College . . . Yet

## Trustees Want Time for Study

TORRANCE — Snowballing plans to gain backing for South Bay State College here hit an unexpected snag Monday with a Board of Education decision to "wait and get more facts."

Board members had been asked earlier to join a growing campaign which, it is hoped, will influence state college trustees to locate the school here.

The City Council already has passed a resolution asking wide support for the projected facility.

Board members say the college, if built in Torrance, may be located on a 200-acre parcel of land near Sepulveda and Crenshaw Blvds.

The issue will come up again Tuesday during an adjourned meeting of the board to discuss and act upon election results.

**DEFINITE STAND**  
Proposing the motion was Albert Charles, chairman, who suggested the board take a definite stand. Bert Lynn, board member, said he wanted information on how the college would ef-

fect tax income before giving his support.

He said he wants to know how much the district presently derives from the proposed site, how much could be derived if the land were developed with industry, and how much if the land were developed for residential use.

**MONEY-MAKER**  
According to S. E. Waldrip, assistant superintendent, 250 acres in Torrance is worth about \$10 million and produces about \$80,000 in taxes.

In supporting the issue, city officials contend it will produce sales tax to make up for lost property tax. However, the school district cannot collect sales taxes and must derive its financial income from property taxes.



PRICE WAR takes Ray Tucker by surprise, as he hand-fashions new sign for station at Narbonne Avenue and 250th St. War started three weeks ago, has spread through Torrance and

neighboring communities. Gas has dipped as low as 24.9 cents per gallon at some stations, may drop even farther, operators predict.

—Press Photo

## It's 'Fill 'Er Up' Time As Gas War Snowballs

TORRANCE — It was "fill 'er up" time in local service stations today as a rampant gas war fought its way westward.

With prices hovering as low as 24.9 cents a gallon, motorists continued gulping vast quantities of the ordinarily precious stuff, thus heaping fuel on a battle that showed little sign of stopping.

Service station operators began cutting three weeks ago after several stations on Western Ave. clipped a penny off routine prices.

The skirmish quickly snowballed, causing stations as far away as Hermosa Beach to pull down their usual 33.9 and 34.9 signs and replace them with prices in the mid and upper 20's.

Many gas station owners

include the San Fernando Valley.

Donald Meyers, manager of an independent station near Sepulveda Blvd. and Western Ave., claims Shell representatives agreed earlier they wouldn't start battle against his two-penny price cut if he wouldn't post his prices on a mammoth street-side sign.

Meyers agreed, but says a Shell station a block south subsequently cut its prices again. And the battle raged anew.

So while service station operators looked hopefully for a break in the war, gleeful motorists could be heard with a hue and cry of loudening volume: "Fill 'er up!"

## 'Shifters' Seek Sponsor For Car Club Programs

TORRANCE — The Shifters, a club of highway galahads, undertook their biggest project yet this week — finding a new sponsor.

Members announced they're conducting a wide-

spread campaign to find someone interested in sponsoring and backing their organization.

The Shifters have been active here since 1956. They attend all types of motoring events, including drag races, sports car races, car shows, relays, reliability and poker runs.

They have traveled to San Diego, Oakland, San Jose, and Las Vegas for events.

In this area they have sponsored five reliability and poker runs and sponsor their sixth Nov. 16.

This run will be held at Alondra Park parking lot on Redondo Beach Blvd. from 6 to 9 p.m. Donations are \$2 per driver and \$1 for each additional poker hand.

Merchandise awards and 21 trophies will be given out at the end of the run. The club currently is com-

pleting a steam-powered dragster, the only one of its kind in existence. Members expect to have it ready for the strips in November.

In the future the club plans to build a conventional-powered dragster for the strips.

Meetings are held Sundays at 7:30 at the home of Lewis Hockenberry, president.

Potential sponsors, and members have been asked to telephone DA 9-9767 for information.

### Inside the Press

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STEAM DRAGSTER provides a background for auto plaque held by Jerry Winchel, secretary of South Bay Shifters car club. Club currently conduct-

ing drive for members, new sponsor. Among projects is steam-powered car, believed to be first of its kind.

—Press Photo

## Dial '113'



INFORMATION SERVICE will be provided from this ultra-modern building at 2154 Torrance Blvd. starting Sunday. Thirty-six switchboards will be open daily to provide local "113" data regarding Pacific Telephone subscribers in Torrance, Gardena, Wilmington, Lomita, San Pedro and parts of Compton.

## 'MYSTERY GAL' IN NEW HOME

TORRANCE — Quicker access to that mystery "Information Gal" will be offered phone subscribers starting Sunday.

That's the day Pacific Telephone puts its new Torrance information center into service at 2154 Torrance Blvd.

The double-storied facility will provide relief for "113" offices in Gardena, Hawthorne and Compton, according to Dick Pyle, Pacific's manager here.

Telephone customers in Torrance, Gardena, Lomita, Wilmington, San Pedro and Paramount will be served by 36 switchboards between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. daily, Pyle says.

Approximately 80 operators have been hired to fill information requests. Overnight calls will be transferred to Hawthorne.

Distinguishing features of the building include glare-reducing and opaque glass in aluminum frames facing Torrance Blvd.

Pyle said switchboards have been painted turquoise blue and administrative desk chairs have been upholstered to match. "Even the floor covering is in keeping with the color scheme," he said.

Plexiglas has been installed on both sides of each operator's switchboard, giving her a private "office." Three shelves are provided for the directories she must maintain for fast service.

The Torrance office will be a part of the nationwide direct distance dialing information network, which enables a person outside the Los Angeles Extended Area to obtain a listing in any of the six Torrance area cities by dialing toll-free 213-555-1212, the manager said.