

No Site Yet, But College to Open in Fall

Torrance Press-Herald

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Board Splits on Tax Rate, New Funds May Permit Cut



MARIJUANA GARDEN . . . Sgt. Lee Ashman, head of the Torrance Police Department's narcotics detail, examines an 11-foot marijuana plant which was removed from behind a garage at 2709 Cabrillo Ave. yesterday. Officers first learned of the plant about a week ago and had kept a close but vain watch to determine if it was being cultivated. A second, smaller plant also was removed from the same area. The plants were taken to the Torrance Police Station where they will be used in training lectures before they are destroyed. The larger plant is worth about \$80, Ashman said. (Press-Herald Photos)

Council Vetoes Apartments for Airport Sites

Construction of apartment units on the city's airport property will be prohibited under terms of a policy statement adopted by the City Council last night. The policy statement encourages the development of hotels and motels "which are primarily aviation orientated."

Councilman H. Ted Olson, chairman of the council's airport committee, recommended the policy statement be adopted as submitted by the city's Airport Commission. Mayor Albert Isen succeeded in amending the statement

to permit councilmen a "close review" of any proposed motel or hotel structure. Isen expressed fears that motels built in the area might be aimed at traffic on Pacific Coast Highway, rather than airport users.

OLSON CONTENDED the statement was one of opposition to apartments, rather than a statement specifically favoring motels and hotels. "I think we're arguing about the wrong end of the horse," he told Isen.

Councilmen voted to adopt the amended statement when the mayor convinced them the change did not materially alter the policy statement.

The question of apartment units on the airport property has been under discussion for some time. Flight patterns and noise were cited in the case against permanent residential facilities.

The policy will apply not only to the airport proper, but to the surrounding commercial property which the city owns and leases to developers.

IN OTHER MATTERS, the council: Continued until Aug. 3 a hearing on new zoning for the southeast corner of Artesia Boulevard and Prairie Avenue. The city's Planning Commission has recommended.

Safety Council Member Named

Mrs. Alva Wilson, 17022 Kornblum Ave., was appointed to the Torrance Safety Council last night, succeeding Mrs. Eva Bisou, whose term has expired.

Councilman Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr. made the appointment.

City's Sign Law Defeats Upset Effort

Can the City Council overrule one of its commissions once councilmen have given the commission final authority in a matter?

That tricky legal question was posed last night when Clyde Wallichs, representing Wallichs Music City, appeared before the council seeking permission to install an additional sign on Hawthorne Boulevard.

Planning Commissioners denied the request about two weeks ago, and the city's complicated sign ordinance, which bases the size of a sign on the number of front feet, makes the commission the final authority in such matters.

Thus the legal question, put to City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer by Councilman David K. Lyman.

The answer? The council can strip a commission of its authority on a given matter, but not by simply approving the request, Remelmeyer said. Amendments to the ordinance must be prepared, adopted, and published before the

SEARCH FOR SITE CONTINUES

New State College Sets September Opening Date

California's newest state college may not have a campus, but it will open for classes come Sept. 21.

Dr. Leo F. Cain, president of the college, said a maximum of 75 students will be enrolled for the fall quarter. Classes will be held in the California Federal Savings and Loan Association Building, 27608 Silver Spur Road, in the Peninsula Center.

Sixty freshmen students will be accepted, Dr. Cain said, and 15 juniors will be enrolled. The college, officially known as California State College at Palos Verdes, has been fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and all courses will be acceptable at other accredited institutions.

FRESHMEN students will be offered courses which meet all requirements for the bachelor's degree. Juniors, who are required to complete both a departmental and an inter-departmental major, will be enrolled in psychology and an American Studies program.

While the college begins its first classes, trustees of the California State Colleges will continue their search for a permanent site for the campus. That search apparently has narrowed to four locations.

Under consideration by the trustees, who will meet next Thursday and Friday, are two sites in Torrance, a San Pedro location, and a Dominguez area site.

TORRANCE sites include the northwest corner of Crenshaw and Sepulveda boulevards, a location first considered some two years ago and rejected in favor of Fox Hills and then the Palos Verdes Peninsula. The state, however, was forced to abandon the Peninsula location last month. A second Torrance site, located south of Pacific Coast Highway and west of Crenshaw Boulevard, was proposed by area officials last week.

Trustees also will examine the Friendship Park area in San Pedro and a site at 190th and Victoria Streets in the Dominguez area.

Dr. Cain said he was hopeful a permanent site might be found by October, and "by January 1 at the latest."

"It is essential that we find a site and start this school," Dr. Cain said, "all we're damaging is the student population in the area."

WHILE CLASSES will be conducted on the Peninsula during the first year, Dr. Cain said a new temporary location would have to be found for

the 1966-67 year. He said the space now available is inadequate. (Continued on A-2)



DR. LEO F. CAIN
Announces College Opening
(Press-Herald Photo)

Study for Bond Vote Authorized

A study of Torrance Unified School District building needs which may result in a new bond election will be conducted by Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, and his staff. The study was authorized by the Board of Education Monday evening.

Dr. Hull told board members the \$20 million increase in the district's assessed valuation, coupled with the redemption of \$1.6 million in bonds this year, will exhaust the present authorization.

In addition, he said, the district's continued growth and the need for additional facilities cannot be met with the present \$3.2 million remaining from the last bond election.

Bonded indebtedness in school districts is limited by state law to the maximum of 10 per cent of the assessed valuation. Voters are required to authorize the issuance of bonds.

Local Coed Will Appear in 'Moon'

Eleanor Blakeslee, 22623 Denker Ave., will appear in "Dark of the Moon," which opens today at California State College at Long Beach. The production will continue through Saturday at the campus theater. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m.

Koenig Saluted on First Anniversary in Torrance

Walter R. Koenig, Torrance chief of police, was feted at an anniversary celebration last week marking the completion of his first year as chief of police.

Koenig received a large cake during brief ceremonies at the Torrance Police Station. Sgt. Jim R. Popp, president of the Torrance Police

New Property Values Boost School Income

Efforts to maintain the present school tax rate of \$4.52—thus denying taxpayers a 12.4-cent reduction this year—were defeated by the Torrance Board of Education Monday evening as trustees adopted a publication budget of nearly \$18.4 million. The action, if it stands, will establish a tax rate of \$4.3964 per \$100 assessed valuation.

Vice President William J. Hanson, presiding in the absence of Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts, started a sharp debate when he asked that the present rate be maintained. Hanson, who voiced concern about future years on several occasions, wants the surplus revenues added to the district reserve.

A reserve of \$3.5 million already is on hand. "I don't think it's good to bounce the tax rate back and forth," Hanson said, "and we are desperately going to need this money in the next three years."

HANSON GOT support from freshman board member Dr. Donald Wilson, who said he favored the present rate. Dr. Wilson said trustees would "be doing the district a disservice" if they thought

in terms of a minimum educational program.

"I'm for the best educational program," Dr. Wilson said. "We'll get it," Bert M. Lynn replied.

"Not the way you're going about it," Dr. Wilson retorted.

LYNN QUICKLY served notice he will oppose any increase above the \$4.3964 rate on which the publication budget was based. "After the way taxpayers got clobbered last time, I think they're entitled to some good news," Lynn said.

He was joined by Dr. Kurt Shery, who said the district was not "in the business of collecting interest on money in the bank."

"Three and a half million is a pretty good reserve," Dr. Shery added.

Trustees split 2-2 on the motion, thus defeating the move—at least for the time being. The budget is still subject to change during the public hearing Aug. 2, although both Hanson and Lynn said they would not be able to attend that meeting.

AS ADOPTED Monday, the budget calls for expenditures of \$18,366,774 during the next fiscal year. Because of a \$20 million increase in assessed valuation of the district, taxes collected for bond redemption and state retirement payments dropped sharply, resulting in a net reduction of 12.4 cents per \$100.

Trustees, however, have no control over the tax rates for such purposes, since the rates are controlled by actual debts and state law.

The general purpose tax—the source of all revenues for day to day operation of the schools—will be hiked about 3.5 cents, from \$3.03 to \$3.52. (Continued on A-2)

City Charter Studied . . .

Members of the Torrance League of Women Voters and the City Council's Finance committee met Monday to discuss possible changes in the city's charter which the League has suggested may need some study. The council committee, which includes Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr., chairman, H. Ted Olson, and J. A. Beasley, will ask the City Council to schedule a special meeting with the League of Women Voters to explore the suggested changes. The matter will be forwarded to the council Aug. 3.

Free Children's Film . . .

A children's film will be shown Saturday morning at Torrance Library, 1345 Post Ave., beginning at 10:30 a.m. Admission to the film showing is free. Scheduled for Saturday viewing is award-winning film, "The Red Balloon," world-famous color fantasy set in Paris of a boy's friendship with a balloon.

Auditorium Group Meets . . .

Members of the city's Auditorium Advisory Committee will meet tomorrow evening at 7:30 to discuss location and parking requirements for the proposed civic facility, according to J. B. Mosley, chairman. The committee is reviewing a feasibility study compiled by Economic Research Associates in preparation for consideration of the report by the City Council. Tomorrow's meeting will be held in the Recreation Center.