

Principals Ask for 12-Month Contracts

Torrance Press-Herald

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HOMESIDE SERENADE . . . A recuperating Torrance teacher and youth band leader received a big order of cheer this week from his young band friends. Members of the Torrance Area Youth Band gathered at the home of Carl W. Wahl at 814 Patronella Ave. and presented a concert for the former band president and booster. Wahl, a Torrance teacher for many years, has been recuperating at his home following a serious illness. (Press-Herald Photo)

Vote Protest Fails; 'New' Council Seated

Ex-Councilman Files 10-Point Vote Challenge



WALTER BUETTGENBACH
In New School Post

Consultant Named to New Post

Dr. Walter Buettgenbach, a curriculum consultant in the Torrance schools, was named Monday to succeed Dr. Bernard Garen as supervisor of educational facilities in the district.

Dr. Garen resigned last Thursday to become an assistant superintendent of schools in the newly formed Barstow Unified School District.

A native of Nebraska, Dr. Buettgenbach received his early education in Colorado and Oregon and holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California and was awarded his doctorate last June by the USC School of Education.

Dr. Buettgenbach joined the Torrance schools in 1955, coming here from Redondo Beach. He previously has taught in Montebello schools.

Assigned first as a teacher at Madrona School, he subsequently became vice principal at Casimir, Wood, Perry, and Seaside schools. He served three years as principal of Lincoln Elementary School and for two years was an-

Torrance's "new" city council got down to business last night, but not before a protest about results of last week's municipal election was filed.

Robert A. Jahn, a rubbish firm executive and a former city councilman, asked that results of the April 12 balloting not be certified because of alleged irregularities in the election.

In a 10-point protest filed with City Clerk Vernon W. Coil, Jahn asked for an investigation and a report before the City Council certified the election results.

CITY ATTORNEY Stanley Remelmeyer told the council it did not have jurisdiction in the areas certified by Jahn and recommended that the results of the election be certified. Remelmeyer said the protest would be filed in Superior Court, under provisions of the State Election Code, where a hearing would be held.

Acting on Remelmeyer's advice, councilmen certified the results and seated Mayor Albert Isen, Councilman J. A. Beasley, Ken Miller, and Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr. for new terms. Also seated were City Treasurer Thomas C. Rupert and Coil.

Jahn claimed that 2,500 more ballots were printed than there were eligible voters in the city and added that 1,500 of the "extra ballots" could not be accounted for. He also charged that "at least two polling places were changed on the day of the election with no notice of change as required."

OTHER POINTS of Jahn's protest included:

- That many "blocks" of sample ballots were not received by eligible voters.
- That some voters received sample ballots and instructions as to polling places for the city of Norwalk.
- That some sample ballots were not received until after the election.
- That the City Clerk (Coil), who was a candidate, picked the election boards and otherwise conducted the election.
- That some ballot boxes did not have the required locks.
- That one voter, after handing his ballot to the election board instructor, did not witness the placing of the ballot in the ballot box.
- That information regarding the election was "almost, if not impossible, to obtain as late as Monday, April 18."
- That several polling places did not report until after 3:30 a.m. April 13, "although

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City Votes Limits for Cycle Riding

Motorcycle riders in the city have a new law to contend with today following action by the City Council last night.

Councilmen, acting on behalf of residents in the area near Del Amo Boulevard and Wayne Avenue, decreed last night that the riding of motorcycles in vacant lots is illegal "if it disturbs a substantial number of persons in the neighborhood."

In adopting the new ordinance, the council also ruled that emergency action was required. As a result, the new law is part of the city's statutes as of today.

Topless Vote to State . . .

Certification of city election results last night by the City Council clears the way to seek approval of the legislature on the new charter amendment banning topless attire in Torrance. Questions about the validity of the amendment on constitutional grounds have been raised, while local proponents see the issue as a spur for state action on the problem. Torrance voters overwhelmingly endorsed the charter amendment, approving the proposal 14,160 to 5,366.

Time Changes on Sunday . . .

The spring arrival of Daylight Savings Time has been scheduled for 2 a.m. Sunday, April 24, and clocks should be turned ahead one hour at that time. All of California and much of the western part of the nation will switch to the new time schedule this weekend. For those who don't want to sit up just to move the clocks at 2 a.m. Sunday, it is perfectly permissible to move it ahead at an earlier hour. Or, for those who want to live dangerously, the chore can be put off until Sunday morning. It could get the family to church a little late, however.

Market Clerks Robbed . . .

Eighteen-year-old Randy Hale was the victim late Saturday when a lone gunman entered a market at Cabrillo Avenue and Sepulveda and demanded money from him. Hale said the man entered the store, walked up to the checkout stand, displayed a pistol and demanded the money. Hale put the money from the register into a sack. The bandit then repeated the routine at a second checkout stand before leaving the market. He threatened to shoot anyone who tried to follow him.

AT WEST HIGH

Sex Education Program Slated

Sex education in the Torrance high schools may be expanded if a pilot program to be offered at West High School this year proves successful.

The program, which will involve 25 selected tenth-grade students — and their parents — was approved by the Board of Education Monday.

Objective of the pilot program, according to Dr. Robert Ford, West High principal, is to determine if such a course can be offered all high school students in Torrance.

SEX EDUCATION in the Torrance Schools currently is limited to films and presentations by school nurses and doctors in the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grades, and to a presentation on venereal diseases in the tenth grade.

Only in advanced biology classes is sex education currently discussed at the high school level, Dr. Ford said.

The West High pilot program will be taught by Mrs. Nancy Smith, the school nurse, and health instructor William Parton. The class will meet for four weeks. Both students and parents will be involved in the program so instructors may evaluate its advantages and disadvantages.

THE CLASS will meet four

days each week as a co-educational class. Each Friday, the students will be segregated and the class time will be devoted to group discussions and questions, Dr. Ford explained.

Subject matter to be taught includes the family, adolescence and adolescent social relationships, growth and development, selecting a mate, preparing for marriage, understanding the process of production, venereal disease, population expansion, and morals and values.

All students will be volunteers who have permission from their parents to participate in the program.

DR. KURT SHERY, a member of the Board of Education, labeled the program "very important" when it was presented to trustees Monday. Dr. Shery said 40 per cent of all brides in the United States are between 15 and 18 years of age, and added that half that number are divorcees by the time they are 25.

Dr. Louis Kaplan and Dr. Albert Posner, assistant superintendents who helped to develop the pilot program, told the board statistics on teen marriages, venereal disease, and illegitimate pregnancies indicate "a need to help youth acquire a background of values and moral standards to help govern their behavior."

"While this is the primary responsibility of the home and the church, it appears necessary for the school to supplement," they said in a report on the program.

If the West High pilot program proves successful, it will be expanded to other high schools and offered to all students.

Council Seeks Land Trade For Victoria Knolls Park

Residents of the Victoria Knolls section of Torrance won another minor skirmish in their 10-year battle for a neighborhood park last night. Councilmen, after more than 45 minutes discussion, ordered City Manager Edward J. Ferraro to begin negotiations for an exchange of property which may lead to the construction of a park near the east end of Delos Drive.

The council hopes to trade city-owned site formerly known as the Lomita Barrow Pit for land owned by Lynden Chandler at the Delos Drive and Crest Road intersection. The city has now acquired clear title to the Barrow Pit site and is in a position to make the trade.

LARRY SWAIN, speaking for several homeowners in the area, said he was opposed to the site because it would be expensive to develop and would create traffic problems in the neighborhood.

Swain told the council the playground at Hillside School could be used by the neighborhood and suggested that the area above an underground water reservoir in the area be developed as a small playground.

The water department property was considered as an alternate park site, but, warned Recreation Director Harry Van Bellehem, the water department property was not designed for use as a park. A proposal to develop the barrow pit was tentatively rejected because of grading difficulties and access problems.

Residents in favor of the park site said more than 1,100 children currently reside in the area. They also said no great traffic problems have been encountered in other areas where parks have been developed.

"We want a place for our children to play that is safer than a city street," Ellis Myer told the council.

LT. COL. David C. Salzar, speaking in opposition to the

park site, said it would be "one of the most expensive parks this city will buy." Salzar charged that it would cost \$250,000 to develop the Chandler property as a park.

Councilman David K. Lyman, noting that Hickory Park will cost more than \$200,000 before it is developed, said that cost of the proposed park would be no more than other parks "even at the most outrageous prices."

Ferraro had recommended that the proposal be studied

by a council committee and Mayor Albert Isen suggested a committee of councilmen, city officials, and residents on both sides of the issue might resolve the issue.

BUT OTHER councilmen had other ideas.

"I think the time has come to vote," Ken Miller said.

His sentiments were echoed by others, including Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr. and Ted Olson.

The council, by a 7-0 vote, asked Ferraro to begin negotiations.

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Torrance Principals Ask For 12-Month Contracts

Action on a request that Torrance school principals be employed on a 12-month contract has been delayed by the Board of Education.

Trustees said they would give consideration to the proposal when they consider the 1966-67 school budget at meetings in May and June. Estimated cost of the proposal, presented Monday by Dr. Frank Tyrrell of the Torrance Elementary School Principals Association, is about \$60,000 next year.

Dr. Tyrrell said increasing responsibilities occasioned by new programs, classes for special education, and increasing enrollments at the elementary schools have created a need for more time on the part of principals.

HE TOLD trustees the extra month would give principals time to "sit down and think."

Principals currently are employed for 11 months of the year. The 11-month contract was approved last year after the principals asked for the 12-month contract.

"We had a 10-month contract and went for 11 months last year," trustee Bert M.

Lynn told Dr. Tyrrell, "and immediately the principals start hawking for a 12-month contract."

"I DON'T think we can afford the luxury, yet," Lynn said.

Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts, president of the board, asked that action be delayed until trustees again take up the new school budget. She asked that the matter be resubmitted to the board at that time "for specific consideration."

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, submitted additional reductions in that budget to the board Monday, but no action was taken. He said an additional \$40,000 could be cut from the budget by eliminating several proposed new positions, and also revised his estimate of income next year.

DR. HULL told trustees an increase of about \$100,000 in federal funds could be expected next year, reducing the amount needed from the district's reserve funds to \$560,000. Additional revenues needed to balance the budget would come from an eight-cent tax increase, if his recommendations are adopted.

Trustees have until July 1 to adopt the preliminary budget.



BACK ON THE JOB . . . Re-elected city officials take their oaths of office as they begin new terms following certification of the election at the Tuesday evening City Council meeting. City Clerk Vernon Coil (back to camera) administers oaths (from left) to Mayor Albert Isen, City Treasurer Thomas C. Rupert, and Councilmen Ross A. Sciarrotta Sr., Ken Miller, and J. A. Beasley. (Press-Herald Photo)