

Rapid Growth Factor in School Crisis

The number of students in school here is nearly twice the total population of the city when the Torrance Unified School District was formed in 1947.

"That is why Torrance voters will be facing a decision on school bonds in the Nov. 8 election," Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, said this week.

In less than 20 years, Dr. Hull said, the number of students attending Torrance schools has jumped from 2,000 to more than 34,000—and there is no sign the growth will not continue in the immediate future, he added.

KEEPING UP with enrollment has been a challenge, Dr. Hull said, but Torrance has had a history of passing school bonds to build the necessary classrooms.

"For six years we had been proud of the fact that no Torrance student was forced to attend school on a half-day session," he said. "This fall we can no longer make that claim. Nearly 900 of our youngsters are on double sessions and unless bonds are approved, a similar number will double up next year."

Dr. Hull said the present situation has "reached the critical point." Six schools are on split sessions, building funds from previously author-

ized bonds have been totally exhausted, and two new schools under construction can anticipate a full house on the first day they are in use.

CONTINUED growth at present rates, he noted, will push the school population to 40,000 by 1972, he predicted.

"We need classrooms for those who have already doubled up and for the 1,000 more who may be forced to double up each year," Dr. Hull said. "We need to equalize facilities at our schools, we need to buy land for another elementary school immediately, and we need to build another elementary school or two."

Redondo Man Completes New Telephone Course

Irwin L. Day, 2410 Thomas Ave., Redondo Beach, has completed a study course on the operation and maintenance of special telephone switching equipment called the Series 100 Director.

Day is an equipment methods analyst for General Telephone Co. of California.

The Series 100 director, when added to telephone exchanges, solves switching and trunking problems which arise from rapid growth in a telephone service area. The new equipment also enables the telephone company to provide such services as extended-area service and touch calling.

Carson Area Storm Drain Bids Opened

Construction of additional storm drains in the Carson area is expected to begin shortly with the award of a \$557,254 contract, Supervisor Kenneth Hahn said today.

G. Vella Construction Co. submitted an apparent low bid for the project, which includes work in Lakewood and Long Beach, Hahn said.

The Carson area work involves a drain in 220th Street from Figueroa Street to Dolores Street and in Dolores north to Carson Street, then east to Avalon Boulevard. A short facility which joins

Aquarium Show Slides Ready

Films and slides of the recent aquarium show held at Cabrillo Beach Marine Museum will be shown to members of the Harbor Aquarium Society when the group meets Thursday evening at 8 in the recreation hall at McMaster Park, Artesia Boulevard and Yukon Avenue.

Trophy winners will receive their awards at the meeting according to President Dick Saleh.

The Carson-Dolores line and runs west in Carson Street to Orrick Avenue also is included in the work, Hahn said. Work should be completed about seven months after the award of the contract.

Tour Campus

Members of the boards of trustees of junior colleges throughout the state will tour the El Camino College campus tomorrow afternoon. The tour is part of a three-day conference program of the California Junior College Association which opens today.



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