

# School Staff Scolded for Boundary Snarl

## Torrance Press-Herald

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# Inspections Held Off For 60 Days

## The Last Cow Has Left Town

There are no longer any cows in the city of Torrance!

Thus reported City Attorney Stanley Remel-meyer last night in a brief memo to the City Council, reporting on the end of a 10-year effort to rid the city of its bovine population.

The last cow left the city on Dec. 15, 1966, Remel-meyer said, under provisions of an agreement reached between the city and Quinn's Dairy, where the herd was being kept.

Harry Otten, owner of herd at Quinn's dairy, agreed to remove the cows from the city after the city took preliminary steps to file a criminal complaint against Otten and the dairy.

Remel-meyer said the complaint was never filed and a fight which began in 1956 ended when Otten agreed to remove the cows.

The result, he said is that Torrance now is a "complete urban environment."

"Thus the last vestiges of our once bucolic state have disappeared," Remel-meyer said.



PRESENT PETITIONS . . . Deputy City Clerk Marjorie Moss accepts petitions calling for repeal of the city Uniform Housing Code from residents of the North Torrance area which was designated as the first inspection area under the city's "Housing Conservation Program." Presenting the petitions are Edward Kessler (partially hidden by Mrs. Moss) and

Mrs. William LaRue. About 20 area residents were on hand for the presentation yesterday afternoon. A 60-day delay in the start of the inspection program was ordered last night after the petitions were handed to councilmen.

(Press-Herald Photo by Hal Fisher)

## Renewal Funds Threatened by Council Action

By JERRY REYNOLDS  
Press-Herald City Editor

Torrance councilmen last night ordered a 60-day delay in the start of the city's "Housing Conservation Program" following a 90-minute debate punctuated often by shouts and applause.

In the meantime, a committee of residents from the first target neighborhood

— a triangular area in the extreme northwestern corner of the city — and the city's Citizens' Advisory Committee for Community Improvement will confer on possible compromise moves.

The vote was 5-2 with councilmen J. A. Beasley and David K. Lyman opposing the delay.

BEASLEY claimed the move would delay final implementation of the Meadow Park Redevelopment Project and "jeopardize final payment to the city" of urban renewal funds by the federal government.

Councilman Ken Miller accused Beasley of asking "pointed questions to which you knew the answers" when Beasley questioned Lawrence Irwin of the City's Redevelopment Agency on the impact of the council's action on the Meadow Park Project.

Irwin, in answer to questions asked by Beasley, said the delay would hold up payment to residents of the Meadow Park area.

ONE CITY official who declined to be identified said the council's action "comes dangerously close to canceling the urban renewal project."

The latest in a series of controversies surrounding the urban renewal project erupted last Wednesday when residents of a North Torrance neighborhood met city officials to discuss the "Housing Conservation Program."

The neighborhood, bounded by Artesia, Hawthorne, and Redondo Beach boulevards and the San Diego Freeway,

immediately began protesting the city's planned house-to-house inspection program.

PETITIONS CALLING for repeal of the city's Uniform Housing Code — keystone of the so-called conservation program — were circulated throughout the city. These petitions, bearing 707 signatures, were handed to city officials yesterday afternoon.

Some 50 residents showed up last night to ask councilmen to repeal the ordinance under which the forced inspection program was authorized, claiming the inspection violates their rights to privacy.

City Manager Edward J. Ferraro said such charges are "unwarranted" and said the housing code has "enough safeguards to make sure the ordinance will not be enforced in an unpersonalized manner."

FERRARO asked the council to refer the petitions to the Citizens' Advisory Committee for study and a recommendation.

Residents of the area, however, indicated they were unwilling to settle for anything less than repeal of the ordinance and repeatedly interrupted speakers to call for abandonment of the entire urban renewal project.

At that point, Councilman H. Ted Olson outlined the reasons for the city's involvement in urban renewal. Olson told the group urban renewal was the only answer to a complex problem near the city's airport "in this one and only instance." He cited several other instances — including

(See HOUSING on A-2)

## Board Approves Joint Election For Libraries

Plans to consolidate a special library bond election with the regular school board election in April were endorsed by the Torrance Board of Education Monday night.

Consolidation of the two elections, however, is subject to approval by the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, trustees were warned.

Dr. Louis Kaplan, assistant superintendent of schools for special services, told the board its action could be only a recommendation to the county authorities who must actually conduct the combined election.

## Library Friends To Meet

Plans for the formation of a Friends of the Library group in Torrance will be discussed Monday evening at an organizational meeting called by the city's Library Commission.

The meeting will be held at the city's Recreation Center, 3341 Torrance Blvd., at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Claire Crain, chairman of the Library Commission, said.

Torrance will establish its own municipal library system as of July 1, 1968, when the current contract with the Los Angeles County Library System expires.

TENTATIVE plans are being made at the present time to submit a \$2,350,000 bond issue — to be used to finance a new civic center library and purchase books — to the voters on April 18.

Mrs. Crain said invitations to Monday's meeting have been mailed to persons who have expressed an interest in a Torrance Friends of the Library group.

MRS. PAT GAZIN, one of the founders of the Hermosa Beach Friends of the Library, will moderate a panel discussion of the goals and purposes of the Friends group. Representatives from similar organizations in Manhattan Beach, Gardena, and Palos Verdes will participate in the panel presentation.

Monday's meeting is open to the public. Mrs. Crain said.

## Parents Win Round With Schools Over Boundaries

Construction of eight new classrooms at Hickory School was ordered Monday night amid charges that the Board of Education was misinformed when it approved a new school in the adjacent area.

Trustees unanimously ordered plans prepared for a two-story building at the Hickory School. The new building, which will increase the capacity of the school to about 1,000 students, will be ready "about Thanksgiving."

Until the new facility is built, some classes will remain on double sessions at the Hickory School, the board was told.

SEVERAL trustees quickly protested, citing earlier predictions that the opening of the Sam Levy School would end double sessions in both Meadow Park and Hickory schools.

Dr. Louis Kaplan, assistant superintendent of schools for special services, said double sessions could be eliminated, but that the board would be unable to keep its promise that no children would have to cross Hawthorne Boulevard

to attend the Meadow Park School.

The answer, he said, is to add portable classrooms at the new Levy School on the day it opens, or add the classrooms at Hickory School.

"Apparently we've built the Sam Levy School too small," Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts commented.

"I agree," Bert M. Lynn said. "All I ask is for administration to give us the honest facts and let us make the decisions," he added. "That's all I've asked for since I've been on this board."

TRUSTEES considered buying three new portable classrooms for immediate use at the Hickory School — six classes are now on double sessions — but delayed the action

when they learned at would take 60 to 90 days to get the portable units into place on the campus.

Dr. Hull and his staff were asked to study the question of double sessions and make a recommendation at the first board meeting next month.

EARLIER in the meeting, Dr. Kaplan said parents in the Hickory School area "had made it abundantly clear" they did not want the neighborhood broken up by transferring some 140 students to the Levy School.

He said the parents were not so unanimous on the question of double sessions pending construction of the new classrooms, but that most felt it better to have double sessions than to transfer to the new school.

## Committee to Direct Drive for Libraries

A 19-member ad hoc committee to work for passage of a \$2,350,000 bond issue to finance a municipal library system was named by the City Council last night.

The election has been tentatively scheduled for April 18 — in conjunction with a regularly scheduled school board election — provided the County Superintendent of Schools approves consolidation of the two elections.

Funds from the bonds would finance a new civic center library and provide for the purchase of books.

Members of the committee include: Mrs. Van Open, 20842 Christine Ave.; S. W. Adair, 416 Via Linda Vista; Mrs. Burt Belzer, 2926 Sonoma Ave.; Mrs. Ben Hayes, 3200 Carson St.; Beverly Weaverly, 26131 Delos Drive; Charles Kastner, 5503 Konya Drive; John Haidinger, 4502 Vista Montana; William Bordeaux, 23818 Anza Ave.; and Mrs. Betty Barnes, 23426 Susana Ave.

Others include Reid Bundy, 1121 Patronella Ave.; George McMullen, 23725 Eschelmann Ave.; Mary N. Walli, 376 Paseo de Gracia; Mrs. Cathryn Geissert, 439 Calle de Castellanos; Mervyn Schwab, 1508 Acacia St.; Gus Rethwisch, Torrance Police Department; Robert Vroman, 3217 Carson St.; Mrs. William Sterling, 22813 Madison Ave.; Mrs. Kenneth Watts, 145 Via Monte d'Oro; and William J. Hanson, 327 Paseo de Gracia.



PROJECT COMPLETED . . . A final check is given to the improvement of Carson Street between Normandie Avenue and the Harbor Freeway. Officially opening the new six-lane highway from left are Art Reeves, Dominguez Water Co.; Don Hyde, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce; Supervisor Kenneth Hahn; Mrs. Bernardine Clark, director of nursing at Harbor General Hospital; and Leslie Smith, administrator at the hospital.

## Jaycee Tribute Scheduled

Members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce will salute their employers at a "Bosses' Night" this evening, and will join with Great Lakes Properties in saluting an outstanding young man of the area. Ralph Grippo is project chairman for tonight "Bosses' Night" event, an annual feature of Jaycee chapters throughout the nation. Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, whose Second District includes much of the north Torrance area, will be the principal speaker.

## Torrance Soldier Dies

Army Sgt. Francisco D. Decaney, whose wife, Consolation G. Decaney lived here at 915 W. Torrance Blvd., was killed in Viet Nam last week. Sergeant Decaney was one of three Southern California servicemen listed Monday by the Pentagon. Details of his death were not announced. The death was the third announced for area servicemen in a week. The deaths of Jimmy A. Miller, 1520 W. 219th St., and Norman Byron Wensel, 24318 Marigold, Harbor City, were announced last week.

## Walberg Trial Begins

Testimony began Tuesday before a jury of five men and seven women in the trial of the Rev. Clarence T. Walberg, 61, and the Rev. Wayne Davidson, 38, both accused of obtaining the savings of elderly followers through a scheme to purchase the Hermosa Biltmore Hotel as a center for their Cup of Cold Water Ministry. The Rev. Walberg is being tried on 12 counts of violating the state corporate security laws and one of grand theft. The jurors were told that the two ministers raised nearly half a million dollars in connection with the hotel purchase.