

... Schools

(Continued from Page 1) will still be set by the state." SB 1 is the first major step by legislators in recent years to remove a host of specific state mandates relating to content, aims, objectives, scheduling, and administration of elementary and high school curriculums.

Among the mandates removed or modified are: foreign language no longer required in grades 6, 7 and 8; physical education no longer required on a daily basis; and minimum time requirements for courses such as reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, civics, government, or English.

BUT IF foreign language instruction is no longer mandatory, does this mean that school may not offer foreign language courses in elementary grades?

According to SB 1, "Governing boards of any school districts may include in the curriculum any additional activities, courses, or subjects they deem essential to the needs of pupils and communities."

The key phrase in that section is "deem essential," reports Dr. Jones. This gives the district leeway to shape courses to the individual needs of various students.

On the high school level, the effects of this bill will be most clearly manifest in the difference between college preparatory and non-college curriculums.

"Instead of making a student meet the stringent requirements of the state as regards English, government, composition and the like when he wants to be a mechanic," said Dr. Jones, "we can offer him supplementary courses in auto shop, and turn out a solid member of the skilled labor section of our economy."

SOME OF the changes enacted in the secondary level include:

- Public speaking is no longer required;
- Five years of English is no longer required;
- Five years of History, including 20 semester periods of American history, 20 semester periods of world history and geography, and 10 semester periods of American government is no longer required;
- Foreign Language is no longer a requirement for grades 7 and 8, although foreign language must be offered at these levels.

With course determination left largely to the district, it is their right—their duty—to see that graduates of their systems are equipped to compete equally with the rest of the state, whether in college or in industry, Dr. Jones explained.

The full effects of SB 1 will not be manifest at the end of this year; perhaps not even at the end of this decade. But one thing will help determine the success or failure of the state's decision to untie administrators' hands: the picking of competent School Board officials, and parent-teacher-student cooperation in providing the best education to the most people for the least taxpayer expense.

... Center

(Continued from Page 1) a low-interest \$5 million loan to the center. The center represents a joint effort of six school districts and is geared to provide vocational educational opportunities to the youth and adults of the Southwestern Section of Los Angeles County.

CLASSES to be taught in the new building will include machine training, electronics, office and business machine repair and automotive training.

The center currently enrolls 500 students. High school students attend during daytime sessions as part of their curriculum and a 7 to 10 p.m. session serves the needs of post-high school students and adults.

The area served by the center includes 20 public schools and 5 private or parochial high schools with an enrollment of approximately 40,000.

"We have had great success in the placement of graduates from the Occupational Center and many a youngster and adult will lead a fuller life as a result of his experience with us," Townsend concluded.

Diabetic Group Sets Meeting

The South Bay Chapter of the Diabetes Association will hold its monthly meeting Tuesday in the American Savings and Loan Community Room, 1959 Kingsdale Ave., Redondo Beach. Guest speaker for the 8 p.m. session will be Dr. L. A. Schleissner, a Torrance internist. His subject will be "What Every New Diabetic Should Know about Diabetes."

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Racial History Is Topic

"Toward Understanding" will be the theme of a program to be presented Sunday, Oct. 6, in the social hall of St. James Catholic Church, 415 Vincent St., Redondo Beach.

The program will include a short movie, called Racial Tensions. Guest speaker will be Horace B. Williams, president of the Catholic Human Relations Council. Williams will discuss Negro history.

The guest speaker is director of pharmacy service at Arcadia Methodist Hospital and a graduate of Xavier University and the University of Pittsburgh.

Conversation and coffee will follow the program.

... Freeway Route

(Continued from Page 1) Council also has endorsed the red route, which affects very little Redondo Beach property. Other neighboring cities have objected to any routes crossing their city limits.

Torrance City Traffic Engineer Arthur Horkay has stated that the most favorable route from the traffic point of view is the red "C" blue route, which follows Anza Avenue, turning southeast south of Pacific Coast Highway. The blue route would be Horkay's second choice.

Final decision on the route, however, lies with the State Highway Commission, advised by the State Division of Highways. Formal hearing of the Division of Highways is slated for Thursday at 10 a.m. in the Torrance High School Auditorium. Adoption of a route is expected early next year, unless a controversy develops.

Hundreds of local citizens, most of whom appeared to be directly affected by one of the proposed routes, gathered at Torrance High Auditorium last night for the special City Council hearing. The emotion-packed group cheered, applauded, and booed councilmen and other speakers expressing controversial views on the freeway. Mayor Isen had to call for order many times.

The mayor started off the six-hour hearing by questioning the need for any freeway in Torrance. He stated that any route would merely be "a short-cut for the people who live on the hill." He pointed out that the Torrance Freeway would not be geared for "through" traffic, but would be a collector route connecting with the major freeways.

ISEN FURTHER stated that the "gainers" from the freeway would be "transients and people of neighboring cities," while Tor-

rance would bear the brunt of the freeway. He said hundreds of families would be forced to leave their homes and many more families would suffer ill side effects.

The mayor stated that he abstained from voting partly because his homes lies in the path of the blue freeway, commenting that the city cannot be forced to accept a freeway. Other cities, he said, have halted freeways by refusing to cooperate.

Councilman Uerkwitz also flatly objected to the freeway. Councilman Johnson said he wasn't convinced the freeway was necessary, but proposed elevated or underground freeways in key places if the freeway must come.

COUNCILMEN Beasley and Wilson, however, gave firm support to the idea of the freeway, expressing the viewpoint that the city will need the additional "mobility" in a few years. Wilson said that the council would be "derelict" in its duties if it failed to cooperate and

endorse the most favorable route.

Councilman Miller said he didn't want the freeway but he felt it was inevitable and the council would be foolish not to adopt a preferred route.

Traffic officials say that the red route will greatly relieve north-south traffic, especially on Hawthorne Boulevard.

Normandale Teen Club Plans Fun

Teenagers of the Normandale community are invited to join a Teen Club now meeting at Normandale Recreation Center, 22400 Hall-dale Ave.

Meetings will be held at the center every Monday at 7 p.m., according to Tom George, center director.

Dances, community service projects, and outings are some of the activities planned for the fall.

Students Commended

South High School will hold a "Back-to-School" night for parents Wednesday, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The program will begin with a general PTA meeting. Parents then will follow the class schedules of their sons and daughters to meet with teachers and get a brief look at the instructional program.

Refreshments will be served in the cafeteria about 9:30 p.m.

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