

Consolidated
Edition
Torrance Herald
and Lomita News

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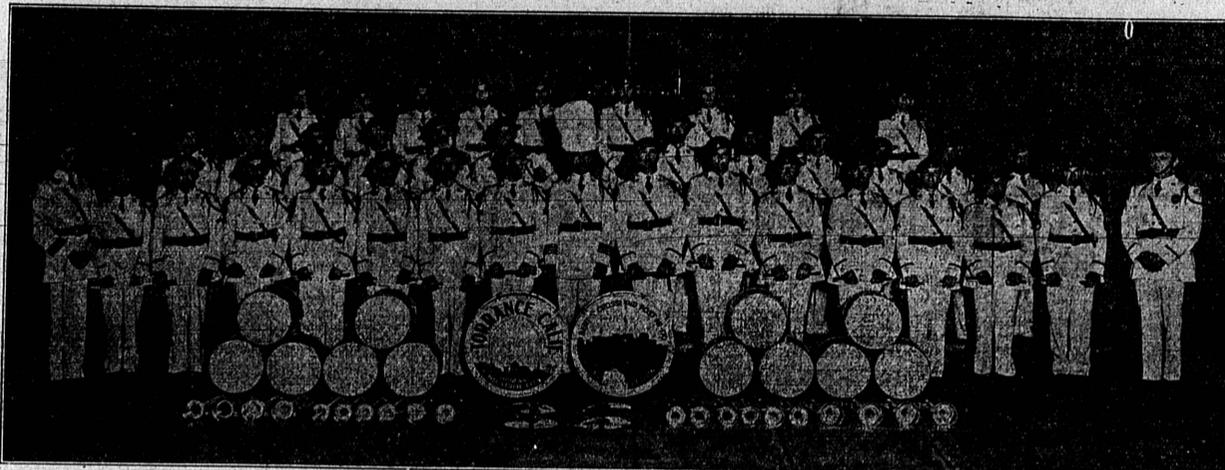
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This Issue

SEVENTEENTH YEAR—No. 37

TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1931

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LEGION DRUM CORPS MARCHES IN LA FIESTA PARADE WEDNESDAY



This photo was taken in front of the High school last week at the corps final dress rehearsal preparatory for its appearance at the State Legion convention at Long Beach. The corps will parade next Wednesday afternoon at Los Angeles in the Admission Day-La Fiesta parade. If you missed seeing them in action at Long Beach, be sure and get an eyeful of their drilling and an earful of their music at this event.

Top row, left to right—Buglers: A. W. Monroe, L. H. Cheadle, L. E. Stanley, O. W. Johnson, E. F. DeBra, R. F. McVickers, cymbalist: James H. Scott, J. R. Wilkes, C. E. Marsteller.

Second row, left to right—G. H. Priest, R. E. Satchell, D. W. Goddard, J. H. Steger, E. L. Patterson, Charles McEachren, Nelson Reeves, R. D. Edens, Tom Bowker, Tom Turner, Alex McPhail, H. G. Stuldenburger.

Front row, left to right: Jack Gill, cymbalist and assistant drum major. Drummers: Jim Brody, Floyd Boyle, Jack Silva, Dr. C. L. Ingold, W. Deitlen, Harry Cull, Robert J. Deiningner, bass drummer and business manager; Fred Sincok, drum major and instructor; Louis H. Deiningner, bass drummer and commander-elect of the local post; R. S. McCray, W. L. Edmons, H. Nelms, H. W. Darling, C. E. Youngling, R. W. Cooke, Frank J. Schumacher, acting captain.

1721 BOYS AND GIRLS TROOP BACK TO FOUR SCHOOLS HERE

Early Start Keeps Opening Attendance Figure Below Last Year's First- day Registration

Because of the unusually early opening of school this year the first day enrollment in Torrance, as throughout the entire Los Angeles school district, was lower than last year. Monday 1721 boys and girls reported for school in the four institutions in Torrance. This is 123 less than the opening of the 1930-31 term.

Despite the early start, the school children have almost a week of holidays to look forward to, tomorrow afternoon being the first no-school period, as Friday has been declared as marking the 150th anniversary of Los Angeles. Monday is Labor Day, Tuesday is official La Fiesta Day, Wednesday is Admission Day and school will reopen next Thursday.

Registration Compared
The opening enrollment here, as compared to last fall's first-day, is as follows:

	1931	1930
Junior and Senior	539	577
High school	912	996
Elementary	137	150
Fern Avenue	133	121
Walteria	1721	1844

Many new students are being enrolled this week at all schools here. Principal Herbert S. Wood of the High school reported that he had registered at least 50 new students who are either beginning their high school work after graduating from elementary schools in other cities, or who are resuming high school instruction in Torrance after being students in other parts of California or neighboring states.

Indicates New Residents
Principal William A. Bell, Jr., of the Elementary school stated that he had reports of at least 35 new resident pupils and that he expected many more within the next two weeks. Principals Guy Holliday and M. R. Holback, of the Fern Avenue and Walteria schools, said that they believed a number of new children had been enrolled but could not give the exact figures until all the room reports had been checked.

These reports indicated that there are many new residents in the city who will make Torrance their home this year. A reason for this influx of population was advanced by Chamber of Commerce leaders this week when they stated that the advertising campaign carried on this summer to make Torrance a vacation spot had evidently created a desire in many who came for the holiday month to make the community their home for a year at least.

Bright and early Monday morning, Police Chief G. M. Calder had police officers assigned to guard the school crossing at 220th and Arlington avenue. Last year not a single accident occurred at the police-protected intersection and Chief Calder is determined not to

New Ruling On Junior College Entrance Made

Only Fully Accredited 14th Year Students May Enter Nearby Schools

A new ruling in regard to Junior College enrollment was formulated by the Board of Education Monday, according to Principal Herbert S. Wood of the High school. All students who contemplate entering Junior College, except those who are official 14th year students, must enter the Los Angeles Junior College.

Those who are fully accredited 14th year students may attend either the Compton or Long Beach Junior College without tuition fee. The Board of Education ruled that students from this district who must attend the Los Angeles Junior College would be given special consideration and attention on enrollment and that everything possible would be done to fit their requirements such as transportation time, school hours and subjects.

It had been hoped, Wood said this week, that the Long Beach or Compton Junior Colleges would accept local students if the Board of Education found it possible to pay their tuition fees of \$165 or \$170 per term. This arrangement could not be worked out, it was announced by the Board last week.

New City Attorney Studies Water Suit

Attending his first council meeting Tuesday night, Don Findley, who was appointed city attorney last week, reported that he and former City Attorney Perry G. Briney were scheduled to meet with the city's special counsel Wednesday to go over the litigation in regard to the proposed publicly-owned water system. Findley said he had been informed that the firm of O'Melveny, Fuller and Myers, the firm retained by the city to assist in the defense of the \$400,000 water bond issue, would answer the complaint filed by attorneys for a stockholder in the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company or file a demurrer next week.

DRUM CORPS. EXPERIENCES PARADE TEST

Fails to Score in Contest at Long Beach Monday Marches Wednesday

Although the local Legion drum and bugle corps failed to score in the prize competition between 40 or similar organizations at the State Legion convention at Long Beach Monday, the handsomely uniformed Torrance corps attracted considerable attention along the parade march and profited by its first experience in such work.

—And it was work. The preliminary contest between the drum corps present at the Long Beach Legion conclave was a strenuous test, but the great parade Monday afternoon was a grueling experience, according to the corps members afterwards.

South Pasadena, last year champions, again took first place in the drum corps contest. Maywood was second and Riverside third.

Elimination Reasons
"After we had performed in the morning preliminary, the chairman of the contest told me that our corps was eliminated because our marching was not up to the standard shown by other corps and because our bugles were not out of tune," R. J. Deiningner, manager of the local organization, said Tuesday. "He also said that we did not present as much marching as the judges expected. We had a lot to learn in this, our first try in drum corps work, and I believe we have gained a great deal from our experience."

Deiningner, on behalf of the corps, and Commander Earl Conner, expressed their appreciation for the assistance given the men and the enthusiastic reception accorded the local marchers by groups of local people who were watching the parade its line of march.

Next Wednesday, the Torrance corps will participate in the Admission Day parade held in conjunction with La Fiesta de Los Angeles.

Accounts of Parade
The local corps was in the third division of the parade. At the head of this division was a float, designed by Mrs. Annie Greiner, of this city, which was filled with children surrounded by greenery. In his practically detailed account of the parade, W. Harold Kingsley reported in the Long Beach Sun: "Torrance post, on parade for the first time, introduced its new drum and bugle corps. The boys are in white uniforms with black trimmings and are given a tremendous ovation as they come briskly up the street. Torrance drill team auxiliary in blue and white with white tams and gold tassels is equally brilliant."

NINE-CENT INCREASE NOTED ON THIS YEAR'S TOTAL TAX

Local Taxpayers to Pay \$3.58 In Old City and \$3.55 In Annexed Tracts; North Lomita Gets 37-Cent Reduction

Torrance taxpayers will pay nine cents more in their total tax rates of \$100 assessed valuation of property during the present fiscal year of 1931-32. This increase, which amounts to the same advance taken by the municipal levy, is the same throughout the annexed portions of the city territory with the exception of the recently added area in North Lomita.

Residents in that tract will get the advantage of what is probably the largest drop in total taxes in the state—37 cents. Last year as part of the unincorporated area of the county, North Lomita taxpayers paid a total tax of \$3.92; this year they pay but \$3.55. (Which includes all annexed taxes in Torrance Tax District No. 2.) The total rate is \$2.55.

Here is the complete schedule of rates:

	1931-32	Old City	Annex.
Municipal	\$.68	\$.65	\$.65
County	.88	.88	.88
School	1.646	1.646	1.646
Metropolitan Sewer	.20	.20	.20
Flood Control	.10	.10	.10
Met. Water Dist.	.03	.03	.03
TOTAL	\$3.586	\$3.556	\$3.556

Last year, the total tax in the old city limits was \$3.49 and \$3.46 in the annexed territories. This was accounted for by the following levies: Municipal, 65 (Old City and 55 in annexed territories); County General, 88; School, \$1.67; Library, .05; Flood Control, .10; and Metropolitan Sewer, .23.

In the 55 acres recently added to the incorporated Torrance area by the vote of North Lomita residents, the total levy last year amounted to \$3.92. This year the taxpayers in that section will only pay a total tax of \$3.55, making a saving of 37 cents.

The Los Angeles municipal tax rate totals \$4.27 this year or 65 and 72 cents higher than the Torrance tax levies.

Postoffice Bids to Be Opened Sept. 5
Property owners who believe they have suitable quarters for the Torrance postoffice for the next five years should submit bids on the rental of such rooms before Saturday, September 5, to the postoffice inspector at Los Angeles. Postmaster Alfred Gouardier will be glad to give any information that may be desired concerning the details of such proposals.

Analysis of School Report Shows City Pays Huge Surplus

What does it cost to operate Torrance schools—and, how does that cost compare with the sum taxed into the coffers of the Los Angeles city school system by our school levy?

Those questions can be answered fairly accurately today because the school auditor has just completed his annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931. But the answer to those queries still leaves a pertinent question which can only be replied to by you, the reader of this survey.

OLDHAM IS BOUND OVER FOR THEFTS

Lomitan Aids Sheriffs In Search for Stolen Equipment

Charged with the theft of a vice, an electric drill and a truck tire and rim, V. Oldham, who has been living at 2727 Orange street, Lomita, was arraigned before Judge Dennis Monday morning. Oldham was arrested early Tuesday morning at the Oil Field Trucking company's place by local police officers and Constable Taber, who with Percy A. Phoenix of the company, appeared as witnesses against him.

Oldham was not represented by counsel and made no defense. He was held over to the Superior Court, bail being fixed at \$5,000. Oldham was returned to the county jail to await trial.

The tools and equipment taken from the Oil Field Trucking company were valued at nearly \$300. Local police and deputy sheriffs believe that articles taken from other oil field companies will bring the total up to over \$1000, it is reported. Accompanied by members of the sheriff's office, Oldham is said to have assisted last week in locating a number of articles reported stolen within the last few months in various oil fields in the county.

Total school expense for the High school, which includes the Junior High, Elementary, Fern and Walteria institutions during the term, 1930-31, was \$341,641.17. This, according to the school auditor, is the total operating, instruction and maintenance cost "exclusive of general control" of our schools. The term "general control" will be explained further on.

State Aids Schools With Funds
The city of Torrance gave the Board of Education, in the form of tax returns at the rate of \$1.67 per \$100 of our \$24,641,185 school valuation, the sum of approximately \$411,507.79.

Subtract from this amount the reported cost of operating our schools and we have a balance of \$69,866.62 which was not expended directly in our schools but which may possibly represent the cost of the aforementioned "general control."

But the Los Angeles city school district receives a large fund from the state in the form of "A. D. A." (average

daily attendance) money. This means a grant from state funds of approximately \$30 per pupil in the Elementary institutions all over California, and \$60 per student in High schools throughout the state. The county's contribution is raised by the school tax rate of \$1.67.

Now estimating the total state contribution for 1930-31 (for no exact figures are available at the present time) to the maintenance and operation of our four educational institutions, we find that the assistance lent by the state amounts to about \$31,380 for the elementary schools and \$33,780 for the High schools. These two contributions and the balance of \$69,866 totals \$135,026, which represents the excess sum given the Los Angeles school district over and above the operating and maintenance costs, exclusive of "general control."

Still we have this phrase "general control" to contend with and its meaning and content bears directly on this \$135,026 surplus.

Defining, Limiting "General Control"
"General control" as defined by the school auditor, C. F. Lenz, is the same thing as "overhead" to a business firm. It includes the cost of maintaining the school business manager's office, the school auditor's department, the architect's bureau, school health department and clinics, salaries of supervisors, superintendents and other officials who exercise control either in the educational or business ends of the large school system. It also includes the salaries paid to clerks in the local schools.

No division is made in the auditor's report on the individual schools in the system of the cost of this "general control" to each unit in the system. It is lumped under that one head and each tabulation of school costs is entitled: "Elementary (Kindergarten or High School) expenditures classified as to schools for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, exclusive of general control."

But this overhead does not include the payment on interest and retirement of school bonds—a big item—this being included in the \$1.67 school tax at the rate of .14 for Elementary bonds and nine cents for High school bonds. The auditor's bond statement reveals that the Elementary school indebtedness amounts to \$217.67 per pupil; the High school's outstanding bonds,

(Continued on Page 2-A)

POINTS WORTHY OF EVERY CITIZEN'S ATTENTION

Here are some highlights of this analysis of our local school situation as gleaned from the annual report of the Los Angeles City school system, soon to be released:

1. Total cost of operating Torrance schools: \$341,641.17.
2. What "general control" means and its approximate additional cost to schools.
3. Torrance taxpayers make a "contribution of about 27 per cent" to schools not in city.
4. Such "contribution" is estimated at \$110,846—a premium paid for Los Angeles control of our schools.
5. Would asserted automatic withdrawal of our schools from Los Angeles system be a saving to our taxpayers?
6. Evidence shows such a withdrawal would mean a saving equal to about 70 per cent of the entire city tax rate, if schools could be operated at Los Angeles system costs.

Tracing Down Excess Payment
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(Continued on Page 2-A)

BOYS' BAND BOOKED FOR 3 CONCERTS

Local Boys Who Desire To Join Organization Invited Sept. 10

An extensive schedule was opened by the Torrance Boys' Band last night when the organization, under the direction of Ralph H. Selby, gave a concert at the St. James parish dance at Redondo. Saturday, the band will play at the Masonic barbecue at the Redondo city park.

Selby also announced the following concerts scheduled for the local boys' band: Combined appearance with the Southern California Girls' band at Long Beach municipal auditorium, Labor Day; September 7, and the three-day engagement at the Big Pine early California celebration, September 5, 6 and 7. The band will be guests at Big Pine for this event.

The next practice of the band will be Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock, September 10, at 1812 Carson street, and all Torrance boys who would like to join the organization are cordially invited to attend.

SCHOOLS BEGIN FIVE-DAY HOLIDAY TOMORROW NOON

On account of La Fiesta de Los Angeles and the Labor Day and Admission Day holidays, all the schools in Torrance will have a five and one-half-day holiday beginning Friday noon. The Elementary schools will begin classes at 8 a. m., tomorrow morning, and will close at 10:20 a. m. The High school will close at 12:20 p. m., tomorrow. There will be no further school until Thursday morning, September 10, when classes will be held at the regular hours.

DISTURBED PEACE IN WALTERIA

Charged with disturbing the peace, Rudy Keane, 23, of Walteria, was fined \$50 or sentenced to 25 days in jail yesterday afternoon shortly after his arrest. The complaint against the young man was signed by Mrs. Steve Sexton, also of Walteria, according to police reports.