

IMPORTANT POINTS of the CITY CHARTER

By JUDGE C. T. RIPPY
Chairman of Board of Freeholders

SCHOOL BONDS AND TAXES

There has been so much controversy over the amount of bonds issued and outstanding by the Los Angeles school district, and the proportion of these bonds for which Torrance is now liable and would be liable under its own school system and the rates of taxes of the Los Angeles school system and the tax rate which would prevail in Torrance if it operates its own schools that it is only proper that at this time actual figures should be presented for consideration of the electors.

LOS ANGELES SCHOOL BONDS
Huntington Park recently became a part of the Los Angeles School District. The following are the bonds issued or authorized for the Los Angeles school district, including Huntington Park:

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Los Angeles, June 30, 1931 | \$58,094,251.69 |
| Los Angeles, Authorized March 27, 1931 and being rapidly issued 12,720,000.00 | 12,720,000.00 |
| Huntington Park, Dec. 31, 1931 | 1,092,000.00 |
| Total | \$71,906,251.69 |

The assessed valuation of the Los Angeles School District including Huntington Park is \$2,056,179,450.00. The assessed valuation of Torrance is \$21,645,165.00. Torrance's assessed valuation is .01041% of the Los Angeles school district's assessed valuation. Torrance's per cent of the above bonds, therefore, would be \$748,544.08. It appears from the above that Torrance is now bonded for schools in the sum of \$748,544.08.

TORRANCE SCHOOL BONDS
If Torrance becomes a separate school district its proportionate share of the bonds on June 30, 1931, was about \$550,000.00. By the time the charter becomes effective in 1932, about \$3,000.00 will have been paid on the principal of these bonds, leaving a balance due and to be assumed by Torrance of \$547,000.00. If we become a separate school district sometime in April, 1932, after taxes have been paid, the sinking fund of the Los Angeles school district will be in excess of \$4,000,000.00. Mr. Lowrey of the county auditor's office advises that it is the position of his office that if Torrance becomes a separate school district that Torrance would be entitled to its proportionate share of this sinking fund which would be not less than \$400,000.00. By deducting this \$400,000.00 from \$547,000.00 our bonded indebtedness would be reduced to \$147,000.00. This would represent a difference of \$271,544.08 in bonds under the Los Angeles school district and under the Torrance school district.

Whether we remain a part of the Los Angeles school district or become a separate school district, sooner or later schools will have to be built, but we could determine for ourselves how much we will pay for them and several schools could be built for \$271,544.08.

LOS ANGELES SCHOOL TAX RATES

The present school tax rate in the Los Angeles School District is \$1.62. I am informed that the County Superintendent has said that at least \$2 will be added to the Los Angeles school district tax rate on account of the annexation of Huntington Park. When the \$12,720,000.00 in bonds above mentioned are totally issued, the tax rate of Los Angeles will be increased at least 5c to pay principal and interest on these bonds. The total assessed valuation of the Los Angeles school district, including Huntington Park, but excluding Torrance according to the 1931 assessments would be \$2,031,637,965.00. The assessed valuation of the land in Los Angeles school district alone is \$1,087,969,295.00. The total assessed valuation of the improvements in Los Angeles school district alone is \$550,115,140. The assessed valuation of improvements is being reduced 20%. The assessed valuation of land is being reduced about 10%. This would make a total deduction from the assessed valuation of Los Angeles school district for 1932, not including any deductions for Huntington Park, \$216,819,957.00. Deduct this amount from \$2,031,637,965.00, the total assessed valuation of the Los Angeles School District in 1931, including Huntington Park, and the balance of the assessed valuation for 1932 will be \$1,814,818,008.00. The school district tax for 1931 was \$19,059,363.00. If this tax is not reduced in 1932 by a reduction in overhead or teachers' salaries, the district tax rate for 1932 instead of being .37c cents will be \$1.05, a difference of .174 cents. Adding .174 .03 and .05, you will find that the school tax rate for Los Angeles school district will be increased about .364 cents.

TORRANCE SCHOOL COSTS

The assessed valuation of lands in Torrance is \$11,162,220. The assessed valuation of improvements in Torrance is \$4,939,185. Reducing these valuations to \$10,162,220 and \$4,000,000 respectively, or about 20% and 10% respectively, or a total reduction of \$1,939,185, the assessed valuation of the Torrance school district, not including Perry, would be \$19,555,980. Taking the 1931 figures on average daily attendance in Torrance of 1049 in the elementary school and 637 in the high school and taking a district tax rate of .786, including bonds, the Torrance school district could raise \$274,716.00. This is on a basis of \$1.24. On a

basis of \$1.30, the sum raised would be about \$286,509.33. By reducing wages in the Torrance schools approximately 20% and reducing two other major items of cost, namely capital outlay and transportation of pupils by \$8500 each, and allowing \$41,425 for payment on principal and interest on bonds, the rate of \$1.24 would allow \$18,847.00 for overhead, and \$1.20 would allow \$38,646.00. Either one of these figures would be 38 cents under the Los Angeles school district tax rate by September 1, 1932, when the charter provisions will really become effective for all practical purposes. Perry's total expenditures for 1931 was approximately \$14,000. Its bonded indebtedness is \$9000. It has in excess of \$14,000 cash on hand. The annexation of this District to Torrance will not materially affect our tax rate.

STORY 1

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experts headed by A. St. Zinn, for eight years engaged on Panama canal work under General Goethals and later in harbor work here, will make a thorough study that will in effect supplement the recently completed economic study made under Engineer Fox of the entire harbor district.

Engineering authority regards the project as entirely feasible from an engineering standpoint as it would require no large amount of dredging to prepare the seal-level waterways and connect the system with the inner harbor. Supervisor Quinn regards the project as acceptable and it is explained that the county has a large interest in its flood control or drainage possibilities as well as in a considerably enhanced taxable wealth expectancy from the industrial development of the areas to be served by the project.

In furtherance of the plan, Stewart Laughlin of R. A. Rowan & Company is conducting the negotiations for large land interests concerned.

The plans call for the extension of the west basin at San Pedro northward to a final confluence with Nigger Slough near Gardena. Preparation of this channel for shipping purposes is held to be entirely feasible.

A turning basin, approximately 1000 feet wide and 1200 feet long, leading from the northwesterly extension of the inner harbor's west basin are to be constructed. From this turning basin a channel, with a bottom width of 100 feet and with a water depth of about 35 feet in conformity with the basin depth, is proposed for a distance of almost two miles northerly through the Bikby Slough district. Branching westerly from this stem channel is mapped a half-mile waterway from the west end of which a half-mile channel is to extend southward and then be connected with the parent channel by a waterway about a mile long. As requirements may demand, the main channel readily can be extended northward for approximately another mile. Lateral barge lanes servicing the main channels also are considered.

The present plans provide for the ultimate development of approximately four miles of main channels, or eight miles of deep-water frontage.

This will make it possible for 1000 acres of land deemed suitable for industrial development, to have close contact with deep-water frontage.

The project as mapped out has been under consideration as a future development for a number of years. That a few years will see the ultimate success of the plan, which had so long existed merely as a desirable dream of progress, is now more definitely forecast in the action of the board in providing for a survey of the territory involved.

New Facts Presented On Schools

(Continued from Page 2-A)

on retirement of \$9,000 outstanding bonded indebtedness on the Perry school district, makes a total of approximately \$45,000 a year. This amount has not been mentioned before and anyone can see that \$45,000 will make a big hole in the \$130,000 difference claimed by the charter proponents. These amounts can be verified by anyone by referring to the Taxpayer's Guide or any banker.

Last October, the chairman of the education committee of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce wrote to the secretary of the Los Angeles board of education asking the question, "If Torrance does not separate from the Los Angeles school district will the Fern avenue school be left?" The reply to this letter is quoted in part herewith:

"October 20, 1931.
"Please be advised that the board of education deems it unwise to proceed now with the construction of the Fern avenue school, but that if Torrance remains in the Los Angeles city school system the board will construct said school as originally contemplated."

This letter has not been previously published, thus leaving the citizens of Torrance without possession of all the facts necessary in their decision for or against the charter. This letter, as can readily be seen, definitely commits the Los Angeles board of education to proceed with the building of Fern avenue school as originally planned. This letter is one of three written to various persons, only one of which has been given any publicity. It was written, the date mark indicates, as long ago as last October. This letter indicated definitely the god faith shown by the Los Angeles board of education which is contrary to the claims of the charter proponents that had faith has been shown by the Los Angeles board.

A second important point which has not previously been discussed is the fact that if Torrance assumes control of its schools it will be necessary to spend within a year for new lands, construction of buildings and equipment, the following sums:

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Fern Avenue School: Buildings and Equipment | \$95,000 |
| Moneta School: Land, Building and Equipment | 65,000 |
| Torrance High School: Gymnasium and Shop Additions | 30,000 |
| School Buses | 15,000 |
| Total | \$205,000 |

This, of necessity, would require a bond issue, since sufficient funds could not possibly be raised by taxes for the immediate construction as mentioned above. Any banker will tell the voter that bonds of any sort, regardless of the credit back of them, are absolutely unsalable at the present time. As there is no market for bonds of any sort, Torrance would then find itself in the predicament of needing funds for immediate construction and being unable to obtain them from either taxes or bonds. Even if there were a market for bonds it would be ridiculous to expect the citizens of Torrance to vote a bond issue amounting to \$205,000 under present or near future economic conditions. If, however, these bonds are eventually sold within the next two or three years the total bonded indebtedness would then reach the enormous sum of \$755,000 against Torrance real estate and improvements.

As the writer stated at the beginning of this article, facts have been presented, actual conditions have been described, and no one opinion can change the truth nor accuracy of the points indicated in this article. It is vitally important that each individual voter who has at heart the interest of the schools of the city, the welfare of the children and the financial condition of his property, to realize that a vote for the charter will be disastrous, that a vote against the charter will help keep our present school system out of politics and on a firm, efficient and educationally sound basis.

SAFETYWAY'S SPRING CLEANING EVENT



While you are giving your home its spring going-over, we want you to know that we, too, believe in house cleaning.

This is Clean-Up Week at all our stores and we invite your careful inspection. The stores are clean and all dressed up for spring—thanks to the splendid work of our courteous store managers and salesmen.



PORK ROAST

Whole shoulders or shank cut of fancy Eastern grain-fed porkers. Be not afraid to buy because the price is so low. Only our unusually large purchase has made this extremely low price possible. On sale only in Safetyway Owned Meat Markets. **lb. 7c**

LEGS OF LAMB

Guaranteed genuine, milk-fed baby lamb, wonderfully delicious and as tender as custard pudding. Serve with fresh green peas and mint jelly. This price only in Safetyway Owned Meat Markets. **lb. 25c**

COTTAGE CHEESE

Girls! You can eat plenty of famous Knudsen's Velvet Cottage Cheese and it will not upset your reducing diet. Though it's rich in cream, pound-building calories are very scarce. Try it in salads. **lb. 15c**

CHIEF BROOMS

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- White King Soap 7 Bars 25c
- Crystal White Soap 7 Bars 25c
- P & G Naphtha Soap 7 Bars 25c
- Fels Naphtha Soap 2 Bars 11c
- Harmony Soap Bar 3c

EGGS Large Local Doz. 17c

Strawberries Large Local, Box 10c

Cleasers, Powders and Cakes

- Old Dutch Cleanser 3 Cans 25c
- Sunbrite Cleanser 2 Cans 9c
- Gold Dust Large Pkg. 25c
- Bab-O Cleanser Can 12c
- Bon Ami Powder 12-oz. Can 12c
- Bon Ami Cake 10c
- Sapollo Cake 10c
- Ammo 12-oz. 13c
- S. O. S. Large Pkg. 22c
- Holly Chloride Lime 12-oz. can 12c
- Skat Hand Soap 12-oz. 9c

LAUNDRY AIDS

- Goodwin Ammonia, Pts. 13c, Qts. 23c
- White Bonnet Bluing 12-oz. 12c
- Mrs. Stewart's Bluing 10-oz. 15c
- Clorox 15-oz. Bottle 10c
- Amgo 12-oz. 13c
- Argo Gloss Starch 12-oz. Pkg. 8c
- Linti 12-oz. Pkg. 10c
- Elastic Starch 12-oz. Pkg. 9c
- Satina Tablets Pkg. 5c
- La France Powder Pkg. 8c

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AIRWAY COFFEE, per pound 17c
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Best Foods—A blend for every preference. With the fresh vegetables from early-spring gardens in the market, this is a most opportune time to call your attention to the famous line of Best Foods Dressings. A blend for every preference—Look for the display in every Safetyway Store.

- MAYONNAISE, Best Foods, pint, 29c; quart, 35c
- RELISH SPRED, Best Foods, 1/2 pt., 15c; pt., 29c
- 1000 ISLAND DRESSING, Best Foods, 1/2 pt., 15c
- SALAD DRESSING, Gold Medal, pt., 17c; qt., 27c

CAMPBELL'S PORK & BEANS

Think of it! A half dozen full pound cans of Campbell's delicious Pork and Beans for only 25c. Now's your chance to stock up! **6 Cans 25c**

SAFETYWAY'S FRESH BREAD

The popular Feature Loaf. Full pound size. Both kinds. The same high quality as always. **3 16 Ounce Loaves for 10c**

Toasted Sliced Bread—16-oz. Loaf—both kinds 5c

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Even if your own home-made supply of strawberry preserves hasn't run out, Marasca Brand at this price is too good a value to miss. Taste just like home-made. Buy some at your Safetyway store. **3-lb. Jar 45c**

LUCERNE FRESH MILK

Again Lucerne Milk drops to a new low price. But remember—there's no sacrifice in quality. **Quart 8c**

FRESH PEAS

Just the thing to serve with this week-end's lamb special—fresh green peas and creamed new potatoes. These are fancy No. 1 Grade, new spring peas. Full pods of sweet, tender, crisp peas. **3 lbs. 14c**

WIENERS AND CONEYS

Good Wieners and Coneys are relished by all. They're nutritious and tasty and hit the spot. These are especially delicious because they are made from selected meats and spices especially for us. **lb. 13c**

NORTHERN SALMON

Fancy Northern Salmon. Thousands of fine fish were selected and rushed to our markets for this sale. Sliced or by the piece, at this price. **lb. 17c**

FILLET OF SEA BASS

You can have no objections to bones because there aren't any. Thick, meaty fillets of fresh caught sea bass. No waste. Try one for dinner. **lb. 20c**

PUREX

We are featuring Purex during our Spring Cleaning Event at this extraordinary price because it is one of those "almost indispensable" items. Purex cleans, bleaches, deodorizes, removes stains almost like magic. 3 Quart Bottles **25c**
Be sure to stock up

TOILET SOAPS

- Palmolive Soap 2 Bars 15c
- Lux 2 Bars 15c
- Guest Ivory Soap 2 Bars 9c
- Lifebuoy Soap Per Bar 7c
- Nassour Castile Soap 3 Bars 19c
- Medium Ivory Soap Per Bar 8c
- Camay Soap 3 Bars 20c

SOAP POWDERS, CHIPS

- Monday Soap Flakes (bulk) 3 lbs. 29c
- White King 20 oz. Pkg. 21c
- Chipso Large Pkg. 23c
- Oxydol Large Pkg. 23c
- Super Suds 9-oz. Pkg. 9c
- Lux Small Pkg. 10c
- Rinso Large Pkg. 23c
- Par Soap Large Pkg. 35c

Furniture and Metal Polishes

- O'Cedar Polish 12-oz. Btl. 43c
- O'Cedar Polish 4-oz. Bottle 23c
- Johnson's Paste Wax 1 lb. Can 63c
- Johnson's Liquid Wax Pint 57c
- Brilliantshine 13-oz. Can 23c
- Enameline Liquid 2 Cans 25c
- Electro Silicon 1 1/2-oz. 10c
- Wright's Silver Cream 8-oz. Jar 23c

Housecleaning Necessities

- Chief Brooms 5 tie, Each 39c
- Royal Crystal Fuses Pkg. of 5, 22c
- Carpet Tacks Box 5c
- Slasher Mops Each 33c
- Crown Scrub Brush, No. 3 Each 19c
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- Center Cuts, Pork Shoulder, lb. 12c
- Shank Cuts, Pork Shoulder, lb. 8c
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