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The Torrance Herald

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TO REBUILD SCHOOLS HERE DESPITE DEFEAT OF BONDS

Reconstruction of High School Auditorium May Be Delayed Unless Community Urges Necessity

Despite the defeat of the $20,000,000 school bond issue by voters in the Los Angeles city school district on Tuesday, work of rehabilitating and strengthening of school buildings in Torrance and vicinity which were damaged by the earthquake of March 10, last year, is scheduled to begin at an early date it was learned from officials of the board of education today. The work will be financed out of the $11,000,000 remaining unspent from a previous school bond issue.

With the possible exception of the work on the Torrance high school auditorium, which may not be authorized at this time because of the transfer of funds to reconstruct classrooms elsewhere in the school district, the rehabilitation and strengthening of other elementary and high school buildings in Torrance and Lomita will begin shortly, it was learned.

Decision relative to the auditorium will not be made until school officials review the financial situation and adopt a program. It is believed, however, by those close to the situation that if civic leaders and organizations in Torrance will point out the necessity of the high school auditorium as a civic gathering place, that school board members can be persuaded to include its reconstruction in their plans. There is no other auditorium in Torrance in which large meetings can be held.

SCHOOL BONDS GET BIG VOTE IN TORRANCE

Torrance voters supported the $20,000,000 school bond issue by a 3½ to 1 majority, far in excess of the two-thirds required. However, the vote in Lomita fell a few ballots short of the necessary two-thirds. Complete tallies for the four Torrance precincts and the two Lomita precincts follow:

TORRANCE—Elementary Bonds
Yes 839
No 241
Necesary to Carry, 720

TORRANCE—High School Bonds
Yes 838
No 243
Necessary to Carry, 721

TORRANCE—Jr. College Bonds
Yes 813
No 266
Necessary to Carry, 720

LOMITA—Elementary Bonds
Yes 502
No 287
Necessary to Carry, 526

LOMITA—High School Bonds
Yes 486
No 304
Necessary to Carry, 527

LOMITA—Jr. College Bonds
Yes 468
No 318
Necessary to Carry, 524

Approximately 32 per cent of those eligible to vote on the school bonds in Torrance went to the polls here Tuesday, as compared to an average of 26 per cent throughout the district.

Final tabulations of ballots in all precincts throughout the Los Angeles school district were as follows:

ELEMENTARY DISTRICT
565 Precincts—$10,839,037
Yes 116,255
No 75,609
Total vote, 191,609; yes votes 34,445 less than two-thirds required, the total vote being approximately 28 per cent of the registration of 679,028.

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
582 Precincts—$9,416,123
Yes 116,428
No 76,761
Total vote, 193,139; yes votes 36,994 less than two-thirds required, the total vote being approximately 24 per cent of the registration of 806,183.

JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT
582 Precincts—$156,123
Yes 115,453
No 77,774
Total vote, 193,227; yes votes 40,095 less than two-thirds required, the total vote being approximately 24 per cent of the registration of 806,183.

Amount of Stock Subscriptions In Bank Sufficient

Next Move In Reopening of National Bank Is Up to RFC, Says Post

Subscriptions to common stock in the newly organized Torrance National Bank are now sufficient to meet the requirements of the Comptroller of the Currency, and the total of waivers of deposits is far in excess of the amount stipulated by federal banking officials, it was announced by J. W. Post, president of the local bank, this morning.

"We must now await formal approval of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to purchase preferred stock as outlined in the plan submitted by the Comptroller of the Currency, before and definite date for opening the bank can be given. The depositors and local stockholders have done their part, and it is now up to banking officials in Washington to do theirs," Mr. Post stated.

Councilman Buyer Speaks Here Friday

Franklin P. Buyer, Los Angeles city councilman, will speak tomorrow night at 8 o'clock at a meeting of the voters of the Shoestring strip. The meeting will be held at the old military academy building on Border avenue. James J. Grant will act as chairman. Mr. Buyer will talk on matters of interest to residents in the strip.

Reorganization of Charities Dept. to Promote Efficiency

Reorganization of the county charities department, for the announced purpose of "definitely fixing responsibility, eliminating duplication and increasing efficiency" was announced this week by Earl E. Jensen, superintendent who took the helm of the county's biggest responsibility last spring. Carl Hyde, Torrance civic worker, is given additional responsibilities under the set-up.

Six main divisions are set up under the plan, each to be headed by an assistant superintendent who will be directly in charge of various services of the county-wide organization.

Rex Thomson, formerly under the title of chief deputy superintendent, takes over the rehabilitation division which includes the following special services: Community gardens, food administration, repatriation, transportation (except county cars) and co-operatives.

A. C. Price becomes assistant superintendent of charities in charge of all welfare districts serving every section of the county. The staff of the local district office will continue to be responsible to Price, who also will have charge of the Olive View placement, adult state aid, child welfare, convalescent and county farm placement, hospital social service and salvage services.

Lawrence Schreiber is the chief of the co-ordination division responsible for the administration of four services: Medical relief including clinic division and welfare physician; housing and feeding, government surplus food, such as distributed to persons in this community, and the assignment of unattached men.

Carl Hyde of Torrance is to continue as chief of the unemployment relief division, which will include the re-employment, the industrial field contact, camp placement and Civilian Conservation Camp placement services.

William F. French becomes chief of the accounting division, responsible for the following services: Payrolls, property, failure to provide, collections, statistical and accident.

Le Roy Bruce and W. Harold Kingsley of Torrance become executive assistant superintendents under the new set-up. Bruce formerly was the only executive assistant. He will be responsible for six special branches: Olive View sanatorium, the Rancho Los Amigos, the General hospital, personnel, veterans' affairs, the confidential index, welfare building and property, equipment and supplies.

Kingsley, recently appointed by Jensen to control all publicity emanating from the department, also is given the title of "special investigator" under the reorganization.

Arthur Will, deputy superintendent of charities, is to continue work with administration of Olive View, the county farm and the General hospital.

Transfer of special service branches from one division to another does not indicate that material changes in personnel of the branches is contemplated, Jensen explained. Under the new set-up many service branches are transferred and allied, and placed entirely under one assistant superintendent who becomes solely responsible.

Who Remembers When

Come on, you old timers in Torrance. The editor is running out of data for this column. Sharpen up the old pencil stub and send in some questions. And don't forget the answers, or the editor will have to call you up to remind you of that important detail.

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S WRW

The legal speed limit in the state of California prior to 1914 was 20 miles an hour. This was increased to 30 miles but the board of supervisors of Los Angeles county passed an ordinance fixing 25 miles as the legal limit in the county effective January 1, 1914.

Registration of voters in Torrance as of February, 1914, gave the Democrats a lead of three over the Republicans. The count as shown by the deputy registrar's books was Democrats 25, Republicans 22, Progressives 18, Socialists 8, Prohibitionists 4, not stated 3, a total of 80 voters.

Judge G. W. Post was the principal speaker at the Nebraska picnic held in Whittier, February 14, 1914. About 500 attended.

J. C. Casey and H. E. Wagner secured a two-year lease on the Richwine building in the spring of 1914, and proposed to open a laundry to be known as the Torrance Steam Laundry on April 1 of that year.

Fred Riley and Eddie Talbert were the two young men who were principals in the first boxing bout held by the Torrance Athletic Association. Riley weighed 145 and Talbert 168. Riley was declared the winner in the first round.

Mrs. C. B. Kyle Taken By Death

Mrs. Nira B. Kyle, 1724 Martina, who has been seriously ill for several months, passed away at noon today at her home. She was 53 years of age. Mrs. Kyle is survived by her husband, C. B. Kyle; her mother, Mrs. Martha Dawson, of Kokomo, Indiana, who has been at her daughter's bedside during her last days; one son, George, and one daughter, Mrs. Helen Shaeffer. Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

HOWARD SCOTT WILL SPEAK IN LOS ANGELES

A series of public addresses will be delivered in Los Angeles during April by Howard Scott, engineer, economist, and leader in the Technocracy movement, whose first appearance will be at the Shrine auditorium, Monday evening, April 2.

CHEOPS FLEA IS DANGEROUS SAYS COUNTY HEALTH SURVEY

Interesting Project Carried On In Every Community of Los Angeles County Classifies Parasites Harbored by Rats, Mice and Squirrels

Gathering and classifying fleas from rats, squirrels and field mice may not interest the average person, but one of the most important and interesting CWA health projects today is nearing completion by the county health department.

Few there are who have not heard that "rats carry plague." But, as Dr. R. V. Stone of the county department explains, the plague is really carried by the fleas on the rats, for "germs must have carriers." Hence, every rat that is killed means that a couple of dozen germ-carriers are eliminated, for that is about the average number of fleas taken from the ordinary rat.

The steps that must be gone through to get the rats to get the fleas to get the species to get the sexes constitute a cycle that requires several weeks. But when it's all done, Dr. Stone can take his chief, Dr. J. L. Pomeroy, to a large safe, pull out a large box containing a number of "pickled" fleas, tell him where the rat was caught that carried them and what it points to.

Catching the rats in traps is the first step. Then comes the part that isn't so nice. When the dead rats are taken from the trap, still warm, they are placed in a special tight muslin bag supplied by the United States public health service, and the bag and rat placed in a tight can containing chloroform. That's the end of the fleas.

The cans are taken to the health department's laboratory in Belvedere and the fleas given another "shot" of chloroform, in case there are any "die hards," Dr. Stone explains. Then each rat is carefully combed with a fine tooth comb, and the fleas from each rat collected in a white dish. Then the yield from each rat is placed in a small bottle of alcohol, and marked. Fleas are gathered from the field mice and squirrels in the same manner.

Next step is removing each pickled flea from the bottle by means of an eye-dropper and classifying it as to species and sex. Dr. Stone then puts the flea back into another bottle, since he cannot put a marker on its leg or otherwise label it as classified, without a lot of trouble. From then on it's a job of adding up columns of figures to obtain the total number of each species and of each sex on each rodent.

The most dangerous flea from a disease standpoint is the Egyptian, known also as the Cheops flea, which carries human plague. There are three types of squirrel fleas, a cat flea, dog flea, the chicken flea and the mouse flea, which is blind, but Dr. Stone says: "He gets there just the same." Most rodents contain a few of each, the survey has revealed. For instance, if a rat is found to contain a large number of chicken fleas, or mites, it would indicate that some nearby hencoop isn't being kept clean. Also the rat will carry them to clean coops. Lice are still another species of the flee family.

Because squirrels contain many fleas, it is therefore not advisable to kill them for eating purposes, Dr. Stone points out.

The yield from 236 rats, mice and squirrels, 154 of which were rats, was 3546 ecto-parasites, "ecto" meaning hair. Of this number 2079 were fleas, which after all is a lot of bites, Dr. Stone remarks, with his pencil at the bottom of a long column of figures. Besides these there were 893 mites, 273 lice and 296 field beetles, showing that rodents have their troubles, even though they are little ones.

In classifying the 2079 fleas, Dr. Stone found that 241 of them were of the Cheops species, and that 130 of these were males and 111 females. The rest of the 2079 were classified as 743 males and 1095 females. A preponderance of females is undesirable, it was explained.

While the reporter scratched himself, Dr. Stone turned back in his book and proceeded to show where the rodents had been caught.

Alhambra and West Hollywood were found to be the cleanest communities in the county. In the West Hollywood instance this was attributed to rat-proofing of dwellings and buildings, and the fact that that community is newer than many sections of the county.

In Pomona, rats and squirrels were caught at a field rock pile. In Whittier the rodents were caught near feed storage bins, in horse barns, chicken coops and barley fields, where rodents were found to contain a large percentage of field beetles.

In the southwestern section of the county, around Torrance and Inglewood, they were trapped for classification purposes in poultry houses and in the field.

The La Salle ranch in San Fernando valley was the source of rats taken from that section of Los Angeles. The drive on rodents was not carried into Antelope valley.

Around Compton, traps were placed near goat pens, at dog kennels, by chicken coops and at a public dump.

Results of the survey, which has had to be curtailed with the discontinuance of the CWA project, are to be completed shortly. Dr. Stone has donated his labors in directing the work and in classifying the flea species, performing this in addition to his duties as director of the department's bureau of laboratories.

Kite, Airplane and Glider Contest To Be Held At Ball Park March 31

All youngsters of Torrance are called to take part in a kite-flying, model airplane and glider contest to be held at the municipal ball park, Saturday, March 31, under the direction of the city playground department. Registrations must be made with Mr. Paul, Recreation Center, 1316 Cabrillo, by letter or in person before that date, giving name and type of entry.

Valuable prizes will be offered, and there is no entry fee. The registration closes March 30. The meet will start in the morning and last all day, from 9 to 5 o'clock.

More than 125 children and adults attended the wiener bake at the ball park last Saturday evening. Four attendants were kept busy roasting wieners and making up sandwiches for the hungry horde.

Josephine Odell, in charge of the playground work, has this message for all Torrance children: "Start planning now for your Easter vacation, which begins next week. Come to the playgrounds and let's get acquainted, so we may know how many to plan for on our trips and picnic parties."

Something of interest is offered each day at the playgrounds, of which there are several now functioning in the city. Stay-at-homes are missing a lot of fun and healthy exercise. Girls and boys are wanted for a swimming club, and harmonica players are wanted for a band. Mr. Paul invites all players to come out next Saturday. Bring harmonicas in the key of C, for better harmony.

The playground at Walteria is ideal, says Miss Odell as it is large enough for a number of outdoor games to be played at the same time and there are shelters for less strenuous pastimes such as pingpong, checkers, and other parlor games. This playground is going to be very popular.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE AT CATALINA

Easter sunrise services will be held at Catalina Island, following the usual custom of the past few years. Services will be held on Mt. Buena Vista. The Easter address will ge biven by Dr. Morgan Odell of Occidental college.

Politics Take Third of Time, Says Judge

Advocates Amendment Removing Courts From Politics

"Taking Our Bench Out of Politics," an address featuring Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 98, a method of removing Los Angeles superior court judges from political influences, was the subject of Charles E. Beardsley's address today noon before the Torrance Rotary Club.

CHARLES E. BEARDSLEY

Mr. Beardsley, prominent attorney and member of the board of directors of Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce, said in part: "There will be an annual savings of over a million dollars effected during the next five years by the adoption of Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 98. We can safely handle the business of the courts with one-fourth less judges than would otherwise be required. Our bench has increased during the last five years 83 per cent. If we increase the number of judges at the same ratio during the next five years, we will need 122 judges in the superior courts in 1937. The steady increase in population in this county and the corresponding number of additional suits filed means a steady increase in the bench unless this system of saving the judges' time is adopted.

"In August, September and October of this year 732 more civil cases were filed than during the corresponding period last year. At present one-third of the judge's time is taken up with politics. He finds it necessary to attend endless meetings, luncheons and build his political fences in order to remain in the position."

Easter Sunrise Services to Be Held San Pedro

Upper Heights At Fort MacArthur Scene of Greeting to Risen Lord

Churches of the harbor district will unite in Easter sunrise services to be held April 1 on the upper heights at Fort MacArthur, San Pedro. The service is held under the auspices of the Harbor Area Ministerial Association, Rev. John B. Speed, of the First Baptist church of Torrance, as chairman in charge of arrangements.

Rev. Morris R. Bigbee will preside, and Richard H. Cantrell will lead the community singing.

The program will include the Call to Worship, by Scout William Park; prelude, Fort MacArthur band, Bandmaster Robert Resta directing; Invocation, Rev. H. W. Tweedie; hymn, "How Firm a Foundation" by the congregation; reading of the Easter lesson, Rev. Fred H. Ross; "Christ the Lord Has Ris'n," sung by the San Pedro Hi-Y Club chorus; the Easter prayer, Rev. George G. Elder; vocal solos by notable local singers; the Easter message, Chaplain Frank M. Thompson, U. S. A.; hymn, "All Hail the Pow'r of Jesus Name"; by the congregation; benediction, Rev. Charles H. Swift; postlude, Fort MacArthur band.

SINCLAIR AT SAN PEDRO

Upton Sinclair will speak before the San Pedro Labor Council in the Richard Dana high school, 15th and Cabrillo avenue, Tuesday evening, March 27.

TWENTY CANDIDATES LAUNCH COLORFUL RACE FOR OFFICE

Former Political Friendships Shattered In Formation of "Tickets"; It's Anybody's Race Now

A field of 20 candidates is offered Torrance voters from which to pick their favorites to fill vacancies in five municipal offices at the general election, Monday, April 9. Final date for filing nominating petitions was Tuesday noon of this week.

With the eventful election day but a little over two weeks away, political gossip is fast becoming the most absorbing topic of conversation. While the campaign will be short, it has every promise of being one of the most colorful in the city's history. Former political friendships are being broken and new alliances are being formed. A recent report, which appears to be well substantiated, outlines the formation of a "Klusman ticket," composed of three councilmanic candidates who favor purchase of the present water company at a price in excess of that previously offered by the city.

Formation of a "pro-administration ticket" is said to be nearly completed, which will be composed of candidates opposed to the Klusman policies and friendly to the majority of the present council.

As to which candidates have the best chance of being elected, there are as many opinions as there are candidates. Even those whom political wise-acres claim "haven't a chance" are confidently proclaimed by other political dopesters as "leaders" and "sure-winners."

The complete list of candidates, alphabetically arranged, is as follows:

Four-year term on City Council: James E. Hitchcock (incumbent), John V. Murray, Beverly B. Smith, William H. Stanger (incumbent), Thomas J. Wilkes, John E. Williams and Joseph M. Wright.

Two-year, or unexpired term of C. Earl Conner, on City Council: Lloyd C. Conner, Robert F. Lessing, Louis W. Simmons and William H. Tolson.

City Clerk: Albert H. Bartlett (incumbent), Harry W. Beach, Charles A. Curtiss and Alfred Gourdier.

City Treasurer: W. E. Bowen, Harry H. Dolley (incumbent), Fanny C. King, E. N. Tomkins and Benjaman F. Townsend, Sr.

Easter Service In Lomita Hills

Girls Club Sponsor Annual Observance of Religious Festival

Dr. Gustav A. Briegleb, noted Los Angeles divine, pastor of the St. Paul's Presbyterian church, will preach the sermon at the annual Easter sunrise service to be held in Lomita on April 1. The service, which is sponsored by the Lomita Girls Club, will be held as usual in the Palos Verdes foothills, at the foot of Narbonne avenue south of Redondo-Wilmington boulevard.

All churches of Lomita are uniting in the observance, and all congregations of Lomita, Torrance, Harbor City and other nearby communities are invited to attend.

Services will begin at 5:30. The complete program, as arranged by the Girls Club, will be published next week.

Three Hearings Occupy Justice Court On Monday

Three preliminary hearings were held in the Lomita township justice court Monday morning, with all three defendants held to answer in superior court, Los Angeles, department 22, on April 4.

The first case involved the "blond burglar" of the Palos Verdes Estates, William Virgil Morgan, Wilmington youth who was arrested March 6, and a large quantity of loot recovered. Morgan's depredations had covered a long period, and most of his exploits had been at the expense of dwellers in the fashionable seacoast community. Many of the residents of the Estates were in court as witnesses and to listen to the proceedings.

Morgan was placed under $5000 bail and committed to the county jail in default of making bond to await his trial.

Jose Rodriguez, Mexican, accused of drunk driving, was held under $1000 bail and was also taken to jail in default of bond.

Hearing in the case against Lewis Dischner, residing on Woodard avenue, Lomita, who is charged with assault to commit great bodily injury on the person of Thomas B. Lynch, age 69, attracted a number of the neighbors of Dischner. Dischner is said to have beaten the old man severely on March 10, following an episode earlier in the day when, witnesses testified, Lynch appeared in an intoxicated condition in the court where Dischner resides.

Dischner was placed under $500 bonds which he furnished and he was released. Trial in all three cases was set for April 4.

Combined Choirs of Churches Will Present Cantata

Stainer's "Crucifixion," an Easter cantata, will be presented by the community choirs, assembled from all the churches in Torrance, on Thursday evening, March 29, at the high school gymnasium, beginning at 8 o'clock.

Solo parts will be sung by Charles Curtiss, Jack Williams, Dr. W. J. Neelands and Scott R. Ludlow.

Ministers of the various churches will be called on for prayer and brief messages.

The public is cordially invited to attend this affair which will be held just before Easter. No admission will be charged, no collection will be taken.

SKULL FOUND

The upper part of a human skull, believed to be that of a victim of the floods in the Montrose area last New Year's, was found on the beach near the Palos Verdes hills last week.

KIND WORDS APPRECIATED

The HERALD gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following very thoughtful letter received this week from Mrs. Carrie Parks, junior past matron of Torrance Chapter, Order of Eastern Star:

"Torrance, California,
"March 17, 1934.

"Mr. Grover Whyte,
"Editor Torrance Herald,
"Torrance, Calif.
"My dear Mr. Whyte:—

"I should like to express to you, and your staff of the Torrance Herald, the sincere appreciation and gratitude of my Chapter, for the very generous space accorded us during the past year (1933) of my office as Worthy Matron of the order.

"This was extended to us at all times in a most cordial and gracious manner,—and can only add to the many sterling attributes which the Torrance Herald does already possess.

"Most sincerely,
"CARRIE PARKS, Jr. Past Matron."