

TORRANCE HERALD

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FREE USE OF AUDITORIUM DENIED VETS

Commander Frank Richardson, of Bert S. Crossland Post No. 170, the American Legion, failed in his effort to secure free use of the Civic auditorium four times a year, at the City Council meeting Tuesday night.

He said that \$35 a night is a "lot of money" for his organization to pay, pointing out that Long Beach and other cities provide veterans buildings for free use of such organizations.

The Legion previously had asked that the auditorium be declared a "veterans building" in honor of the men who saw service in the two world wars. The Council has adopted a schedule of rates for use of the auditorium, kitchen, amplifier, spotlight and other equipment, which amounts to nearly \$75 a night.

In voicing his opposition to giving the veterans group free use of the auditorium as requested, Councilman George V. Powell said: "We have set the rules for a guide and that's it." Councilman A. L. Jackson followed: "That's the way I feel about it."

Then Mayor J. Hugh Sherry Jr. announced that it would be necessary to deny the American Legion's request.

Since adoption of the high scale of rates, dinners in the auditorium have dropped down from several each month to a lone dinner, and that was paid by the city, it is pointed out.

Various organizations which had been holding banquets there, now are seeking other facilities.

School Property Topic Of Parleys With Officials

Two conferences relative to the custody and control of property of the Torrance schools, being taken over by the people of this city as a result of adoption of the Charter on August 20, are slated for the next week.

Today Dr. Howard A. Wood, James L. Lynch, Mrs. Evelyn Carr, Mrs. Grace Wright and Carl Steele, together with Judge John A. Shidler and Frank S. Selover, managing editor of the Torrance Herald, will confer with Dr. C. C. Carpenter, assistant county superintendent of schools, and representatives of the County Counsel's office relative to protection of the rights of the people of Torrance to school property equipment and fixtures for which they have paid in taxes and bond funds throughout the years of Los Angeles control of Torrance schools.

The second is a conference between W. K. Cobb, superintendent of Redondo Union high school district, Dr. Carpenter and Dr. V. Kersey, Los Angeles superintendent of schools, on Feb. 18, relative to the ownership and control of Torrance high school property during the coming year. Redondo high school district will have jurisdiction over Torrance high school next year, pending the formation of the Torrance Unified school district to take over all schools of the city, from kindergarten through high school.

All Charter Committee members are candidates for election to the Torrance Board of Education at the election of March 18. They will have control only over the elementary schools next year.

Thrice Certified Juvenile Pursues Life Of Crime

A nine-year-old Torrance boy, who twice last week was certified to juvenile court for the theft of a bicycle and the participation in a similar theft with two other juveniles, this week awaited hearing before the court on his third charge of theft. The latest charge was for stealing a motor scooter police say. Following each arrest the youth was certified and released to his parents pending a hearing on the charges.

Officers here opined the boy would have a longer chain of arrests if the juvenile court did not soon act upon the charges.



HOWARD A. WOOD, M.D.



GRACE W. WRIGHT



JAMES L. LYNCH



CARL D. STEELE



EVELYN L. CARR

CANDIDATES FOR FIRST BOARD OF EDUCATION Five of the 14 candidates for the Torrance Board of Education, to be selected for the first time in Torrance history on March 18, are the above citizens who long have been active in behalf of Torrance children and their schools and in the campaign to withdraw Torrance schools from control of Los Angeles. All well informed on the problems and duties involved and each with a sympathetic attitude toward the needs of Torrance children and the requirements for a greatly improved system, they are, left to right, Dr. Howard A. Wood, chairman of the Charter Committee; Grace W. Wright, co-treasurer of the committee; James L. Lynch, vice chairman; Carl D. Steele, co-treasurer, and Evelyn L. Carr, chairman, Torrance Parents Association.

CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDACIES POINT TO MOVE BY L.A. GROUP FOR CONTROL

Not content with two decisive defeats at the hands of the voters of Torrance in recent months, friends and affiliates of the Los Angeles school system have come forward with a slate of candidates for the Torrance Board of Education election March 18.

This was revealed as the final fillings for the Torrance school board election were completed last Thursday.

Analyzing all the candidates, it appears that they are divided into three distinct camps: 1. The friends of Torrance independent schools as represented by the Charter Committee candidates.

2. The friends of Los Angeles City schools, as indicated by sponsors of that group of candidates.

3. A group of candidates which makes its appearance at most local elections usually in opposition to the incumbent administration and frequently derogatory in their criticism of established institutions working for civic betterment.

One lone independent candidate is on the ballot, it is indicated in view of the way candidates are offered by their sponsors.

This one candidate's sympathies are with the Charter Committee candidates and the efforts of the majority of the citizens of Torrance to give the children of Torrance the finest school system in California, schools which Torrance can afford by virtue of its enormous wealth and schools which have been promised by the Charter committee through the campaign which started with demanding that the City Charter be written, appointment of the committee to write and present the Charter, its successful campaign prior to the election on August 20, its ratification on January 7, 1947, and the vote Jan. 24 to affiliate Torrance with Redondo Union high school district, and El Camino Junior college district for higher education.

Dividing the candidates into apparent camps, the voters will find them lined up as follows: The original Charter Committee.

(Continued on Page 4-A)

National Not Involved In Oil Workers Dispute

The National Supply Company, Torrance, is in no way involved in the wage dispute of the C.I.O. Oil Workers' union against various western states oil companies, it was reported here yesterday.

While federal conciliators and C.I.O. leaders were conferring regarding the possible walkout of some 20,000 members of the oil workers union in seven western states, J. D. Spalding, works manager at the Torrance plant, said that the possible strike will not affect the local plant unless it results in cutting down necessary oil supplies for operation.

It was said that units of the Oil Workers union in the Long Beach and Harbor district were willing to accept employers' terms of a 21 percent increase in salary on a sliding scale, depending upon the cost of living, but that the union itself has declined to accept such a settlement, demanding 25 percent increase in pay.

Merchants Ask Off-Street Parking Lots

The City Council Tuesday night took steps to grade and treat with a light oil material several downtown lots to be used for off-street parking.

The Retail Merchants division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, headed by I. L. Wieder, chairman, told the Council in requesting that parking lots be provided, that there is a "definite need for employee parking of automobiles in a convenient location for the purpose of making additional space available throughout our retail district for customer use."

The merchants group requested that the Council approve the use of the city lots at El Prado and Cravens avenue. "We believe that the city could, at a very nominal expense, condition the soil of this property with an oil treatment that would make it ideal for parking purposes," Wieder told the Council in giving assurance of merchant cooperation in the development of parking areas within the retail district to keep Torrance out in front as an inviting place to shop.

The Council asked that estimates be prepared of the cost of the work requested on the city lots; also on the vacant property between Cravens and the Parks building on Marcelina avenue, and several other downtown locations.

Superior Judge Allen W. Ashburn today considered evidence in a suit to determine ownership of property known as Blackacres in the Hollywood-Riviera tract in Torrance.

William V. O'Conner, attorney for the Avalon Corporation, said his client is suing the Victory Aircraft Corporation for \$80,000 in the event Judge Ashburn rules the Avalon firm has no claim to the property.

O'Conner stated in the suit the Blackacres property was sold last July 24 by Ocean View Properties, Inc., to the Victory Aircraft Corporation, Rudolph Mayer and Sam Friedman, who in turn gave option to the Avalon Corporation for the purchase of 219 lots in the tract at \$900 each.

The complaint sets forth that the Avalon firm spent \$40,000 for promoting resale of the land and charges Victory Aircraft claims the property still is owned by Ocean View Properties.

Auto Accident Injuries Fatal To Local Woman

Mrs. Ethel L. Goss, 57, 1617 Amapola ave., died here early Tuesday morning from injuries received in an automobile accident Sunday at Avalon blvd. and Victoria st.

Mrs. Goss, who was organist at Torrance Methodist church, was riding as a passenger in a car driven by her husband, Ira W. Goss. The vehicle was struck by another car as they attempted to cross Avalon on Victoria, it was said. Mrs. Goss was taken to Torrance Memorial hospital following the crash.

Services will be conducted today at 2 p.m. in the Torrance Methodist church by the Revs. Clyde E. Ruckman and Fred Ross. Entombment will be in Angeles Abbey mausoleum, Compton. Stone and Myers will be in charge. A native of Wales here for the past three years and devoted most of her time to church activities. She is survived by her husband, Ira W. Goss; son, Gerald T. Davis, Los Angeles; mother, Mrs. Cora Albert, Torrance and sister, Mrs. Mable Kinzly, Redondo Beach.

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Blessings Of Joining Redondo High School District Are Counted Here

Torrance High School students who are acquainted with Redondo High were counting the blessings of affiliation with Redondo Union High School district next year, during the interim period pending formation of the Torrance Unified School District. From an athletic point of view, the reception of the news that Torrance High will be in the Bay League of the California Interscholastic Federation, playing such teams as Redondo itself, Inglewood, Jordan of Long Beach, El Segundo, Beverly Hills, Leuzinger at Hawthorne, and Santa Monica was popularly received.

Not only do they meet these teams in football, but they will have the stiff competition they offer in basketball, baseball, track and other sports. This includes a bit of wrestling which the complete Redondo athletic program includes.

The California High School cadet corps is organized at Redondo, and in addition to the military training the students of the Redondo system, to which Torrance will belong starting July 1, have available, there is competition in rifle marksmanship.

While Redondo has one of the finest equipped high schools in Southern California, its full advantages cannot be extended to Torrance, however, because the Torrance students will continue to attend classes on the Torrance campus using such equipment as available or can be provided in the coming months.

The Torrance Charter Committee members, in the campaign to withdraw schools of this city from Los Angeles system, told of the many shortcomings of Torrance High school

Torrance Herald To Sponsor Marble Tournament For Torrance Area Boys

Hey kids! Start right now practicing to knuckle-down with your favorite agate so that you will have a chance in the forthcoming Torrance Marble Tournament sponsored by the Torrance Herald.

Four Torrance service clubs, Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions and 20-30 organizations have entry blanks awaiting the signatures of boys who have their choice of competing under the auspices of either of the four groups.

The contest, conducted as a City Recreation Department activity under the direction of Dale Riley, director, will start eliminations March 1 and 8. Finals will be played March 15. Useful prizes will be awarded by the Herald to the three class winners.

Regulation six-foot "bull rings" will be used by boys in the first group who are enrolled here in the first to fourth grades inclusive. The 10-foot six-foot rings will be used by fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students competing, Riley announced.

Marble size for snooting taws are not to exceed seven-eighths of an inch. A nother thing, boys, you might as well leave your "sneakies" home because the rule book frowns upon the overloaded migs as a law or target. Boys interested in entering the contest are urged to contact their favorite service club and sign an entry blank.

Remember, if you want to complete a set of champion marble shooter of Torrance and win the big prizes to be offered, you had better hurry and sign up today!

15-Year-Old Girl Arrested Here For Drunk

A 15-year-old Wilmington girl was arrested here Saturday night by police and booked for drunk.

Officers said the teen-age girl had been attending the Saturday night dance in Torrance and was taken outside by two other juvenile girls who were officers they were "walking her around." Police described the girl to be "in a very drunk condition" and held her until the following morning, at which time she was released to her mother.

Two San Pedro juveniles, in company with an 18-year-old youth, were picked up the same evening by police when they were found to be in possession of three cases of beer. Officers explained the boys were trying to pick up some girls at a dance with promises of "having a beach party."

It was not determined where the minors secured the beer, police said.

Lack of equipment and uniforms for football, track, and other teams has been hit. The Marine League champs of Torrance had shabby, ill-matched uniforms. And they did not have a band to inspire the conquerors onward.

Richardson, New Legion Comdr., Succeeds Totten

Frank Richardson Tuesday was elected commander of the Bert S. Crossland American Legion Post No. 170, succeeding Clifford Totten, it was announced here yesterday.

Totten and his wife, Mrs. Constance Totten, are leaving Torrance to establish a business in North Dakota. Mrs. Totten, who was post adjutant, is succeeded by J. A. Strickland, the announcement said.

LAWSUIT FILED BY SHIDLER SEEKS TO PREVENT STRIPPING OF SCHOOLS BY LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles Board of Education has been ordered by Superior Judge Frank G. Swain to show cause why it should not be "enjoined and restrained during the pendency of this action from removing any of the property in the City of Torrance which has been used in the school system of the City of Torrance and which has been furnished by the Los Angeles Board of Education."

Two Torrance Stores Closed In Union Dispute

Wage and hour disputes between the Retail Clerks Union of San Pedro and owners of two Torrance and two San Pedro stores resulted in the closing of the four units this week. Closed are Sontag and Whelan drug stores in Torrance, and Sontag and Thrifty stores in San Pedro. As a result of closing the stores, some 75 employees were laid off, it was said.

The dispute, according to Al Morgan, business agent for the retail clerks' union, is due to the failure of the four chain stores to accept a contract which has been signed by 66 other drug stores throughout the harbor district. The new contract calls for a \$45 a week to clerks for 40 hours work, against a previous \$35 for 45 hours, and payment of \$100 a week to pharmacists against \$75 formerly paid for 45 hours work.

Morgan said that it was the union's belief that the four chain stores will not sign the contract because of the precedent it may set in Los Angeles, where hundreds of stores might soon become involved in a similar dispute. It was said the stores indicate they are willing to pay the money asked, but for 45 hours work each week, but that the union cannot give way for four stores in the area involved, when some 56 stores already have agreed to the new contract.

The complaint sets forth the action of the people of Torrance in providing for the control of their own schools; the ratification of the charter; the election to join Redondo Beach Union high school district for secondary education purposes; that the people have paid taxes for more than 25 years to Los Angeles school district for education of the children of Torrance; that the taxing power of Los Angeles on the school district of Torrance will end in June; that the County Counsel has ruled that all school property within the Torrance district belongs to the people of Torrance since the people have paid for such property in taxes and school bonds; that student body funds amounting to more than \$8000 are on hand at the various schools; that the physical properties used in the schools include several stucco and concrete buildings and some 15 bungalows; that desks and other equipment have been affixed to the buildings and become a part of them, and that "irreparable injury will result to the Torrance School district by the removal of the property which is or will become the property of the Torrance City School District" and that because "the Torrance School District's Board of Trustees are as yet unelected and because the Los Angeles Board of Education has control of the assets until June of this year, there is one to act to protect the property of the new school system other than a taxpayer and that there is no other remedy at law available to this taxpayer."

The Education Code also provides that in event of a dispute between the Board of Education and the people of the City of Torrance, the Board of Education shall, upon the withdrawal of the territory becoming effective, become the property of the district of which the territory becomes part or the whole.

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Alterations In Plans For Two Factories Okayed

The National Supply Company will construct a 12,000 square foot addition to its foundry in Torrance, according to action of the City Council Tuesday night in approving certain features of the proposed building. The foundry now is 90,000 square feet in size.

The Council also approved alterations in the construction of the new American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp. pottery in Torrance. Where the building code requires certain types of sprinkling systems the Council gave its consent to elimination of phases of the fireproofing requirements when it was pointed out that water from the sprinkling system would be more damaging than possible fire.

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Weather Record

Official U. S. Weather Bureau TEMPERATURE		
Feb.	Maximum	Minimum
1	77	45
2	77	48
3	74	48
4	61	41
5	61	41
6	68	50
7	68	47
8	68	47
9	68	47
10	68	47
PRECIPITATION		
Feb.	Storm Total	(Season)
1	.01	8.99