

## THANKS NEIGHBOR For A Job Well Done

Recording a light but decisive vote, electors of Torrance City School District on Friday created Torrance City High School District, an act which—with the mere stroke of a pen—will result in formation of Torrance Unified School District and thus place all Torrance schools, from kindergarten through high school, under Torrance Board of Education.

This election was the culmination of a long campaign to take control of the Torrance schools from Los Angeles, intensified by a "big push" which began in 1944. It accomplished a feat which old timers said "couldn't be done."

True, it couldn't have been done had it not been for the faithful work of a small group of determined citizens who faced disappointment, discouragement and even vilification in the hard drive to provide "Torrance Schools for Torrance Children."

And true, it might not have been accomplished had it not been for the friendly and neighborly act of the Trustees and Administrators of Redondo Union High School District in agreeing to take over and operate Torrance High School during the first year of existence of Torrance City School District—until the voters of Torrance could form their own high school district and thus bring about unification of all schools under one Board of Education and Administration.

In a sense, when the voters of Torrance, a year ago almost to the day (Jan. 24, 1947), elected to join Redondo Union High School District for secondary education purposes—a requirement of the Education Code following the formation of a new school district—they were handing the Trustees and Administrators of Redondo Union High School District quite a "package."

But they went to work on their new job, smiling and happy, and spent months—the whole summer vacation—buying furniture, equipment, books, supplies, athletic equipment and other necessary items to operate a high school for the students of Torrance. They did not take "anything they could get," but held out for good, substantial equipment which will last the school for years. This was in distinct contrast with the desks, books and equipment with which the Torrance students suffered during the years under Los Angeles control.

The Redondo trustees brought in teachers, department heads and administrators who with their fine spirit have endeared themselves to the students of the High School. They have taken part in student activities and have "broken the ice" between the community and the High School by staying with the students, after school, on weekends, helping them, helping the school and helping the community.

And the Redondo trustees, administrators and teachers did this knowing that, under a gentlemen's agreement pending the outcome of an election in Torrance, they would have control of the school only for one year. This year ends July 1, 1948, when Torrance takes over the High School.

People of Torrance, patrons of Torrance High School, you owe much to the Trustees of Redondo Union High School District: J. Robert Black, H. R. Kuhn, Walter G. Linch, Robert Russell and Wesley Toy; to the administrators: W. K. Cobb, superintendent; L. W. Waller, principal; Arthur M. Main, vice principal; Miss Harriet Hardy, dean of girls; to Coach Eddie Cole and staff, and to each and every teacher on the High School faculty. They took on a difficult task and have come through admirably, earning the undying support of the students of the school and of the citizenry.

These months, since the opening of school, have been happy ones for Torrance students and parents; and Redondo Union High School District has won its way into the hearts of the people for the fine way it launched the secondary education program for Torrance, and for the preparation made for the Torrance Board of Education to take over the all-important task of operating the High School.

Once again, thank you, neighbor.

### THEY SAID IT COULDN'T BE DONE

As we pay tribute to the fine work done by Redondo High School trustees and administrators in taking over and operating Torrance High School this year, we cannot but hark back to the start of the "big push" which ended in victory at the election last Friday and give note to the campaign which accomplished something that Torrance had desired for years.

Yes, the Torrance Herald had its hand in the picture, and with the collaboration and assistance of a small group of parents, aided in the organization of the "Torrance Schools for Torrance Children" campaign through the Torrance Parents Association. Among those most active at the start are Mrs. Evelyn Carr, now a member of the Board of Education; Mrs. Ethel Derouin and Mrs. Myra Beeman.

Step by step, the drive was carried forward, beset with many disappointments, until finally the Council was prevailed upon to name the Charter committee, which brought about writing and adoption of the City Charter, thus providing for creation of Torrance City School District. On this group were such hard and faithful workers as James L. Lynch, Dr. Howard A. Wood, now president of the Board of Education; Mrs. Grace W. Wright, vice president of the Board; Mrs. Mina Shidler and Carl D. Steele, also a member of the Board.

Yes, the job Torrance had tried to achieve twice in earlier years, and which they said "couldn't be done," is now an accomplished fact.

Congratulations, people of Torrance.

### WE'LL HAVE NIGHT FOOTBALL AT HOME

As Torrance becomes an independent high school district, dropping its affiliation with Redondo Union High School District on July 1, 1948, the need is presented for providing seating for at least 5,000 persons at the Torrance High School athletic field, and for providing of lights for night football, since all Bay League teams play at night.

This presents a real opportunity for the community to show its appreciation for the high school, and the Torrance Herald suggests that a group of civic-minded persons "back" the student body for the purchase of bleachers and lights that they might be installed in time for the opening of the football season. The banks are happy to have this type of paper, and the notes would be paid off by the Student Body funds from receipts for football.

We cannot expect the schools, in their present financial status, to take on this obligation; it is a challenge to the community. We want a home field for our Torrance High Tartar gridders. Let's get going on the move.

## UNIQUE SENIOR CLASS GRADUATING FROM THS

Commencement exercises conducted tonight in Torrance High School auditorium for the midwinter graduating class will be unique in that the students of the high school making up the class are the first midwinter graduates of Redondo Union High School District since 1941, and are the only seniors who ever will occupy that position, at least under the present policy of the Torrance Board of Education which will take over the high school July 1.

The class is the only midwinter graduating group of Redondo High School district since Redondo discontinued midwinter classes in 1941. Torrance, on the other hand, is adopting the annual promotion plan, thus eliminating the winter graduating and promotional exercises conducted here in the past. The only reason Redondo is conducting the midwinter graduating exercises in Torrance this year is because the class is accustomed to the procedure of Los Angeles City Schools which is operating on the twice-a-year promotion and graduation plan. According to Superintendent of Schools J. Henrich Hull and Dr. Howard A. Wood, president of the Board of Education, the midwinter graduation exercises conducted here in the past. The

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## NEW WATER WELL ASKED BY STANGER

The need for drilling a new water well by Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1 (the Central Torrance Water District) was cited yesterday by William Stanger, manager of the various municipal water systems of Torrance as lack of rainfall continues to threaten underground sources.

Stanger said that it is apparent, due to the draw down on the two M.I.D. No. 1 wells which furnish the central residential, business and industrial area of Torrance, that another well in the vicinity of Torrance ball park must be drilled in the near future. The cost, with a pressure tank, is estimated at \$60,000, Stanger said, and he declared necessary finances are available considering amounts owed by the general fund to the water district.

"The static level in MID wells remains close," Stanger said, "but the draw down now is nearly 40 feet below where it used to be. This has meant that we have had to drop pumps 20 feet to get the supply we need. It will take three normal years to remedy this situation."

Stanger said that, with their Metropolitan Water District supply at hand, Wateria and North Torrance Water districts are safe, but that M.I.D. No. 1 is in a serious condition. This is the reason that he is suggesting the drilling of the new well, he said.

## Blanket Fund Appropriations Hit By Clerk

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, as finance officer of the city, questioned the action of the City Council Tuesday night in passing blanket appropriations of funds in a blanket motion, and declared he would not sign checks for the amounts authorized until he has an opinion assuring him of the legality of the appropriations.

Several amounts, ranging from \$50 to \$857.50 were authorized by the council in a single motion together with general business as submitted by City Administrator George W. Stevens.

Bartlett, although recording the motion as clerk, expressed his doubt as to the legality of blanket appropriations of funds. The expenditures, amounting to \$1,522.46, are:

Purchase for the Fire Department of 550 lineal feet of 2 1/2-inch hose for \$847.50, plus sales tax, and curtains for fire house in the amount of \$124.96, plus sales tax.

Subscription to the "Management Information Service," conducted by the International City Managers Association, at a cost of \$50.00 per year.

Apple avenue improvement, from Lincoln avenue north to the railroad tracks, the necessary material to cost \$500.00.

### TO FORT ORD

Sgt. Robert White and his wife Rosemary, who had been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. White of 2026 236th st., left Sunday for Ft. Ord. Sgt. White expects to leave soon for overseas duty.

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## C. of C. Demands Action on Poker Halls, Council Pay; Manager Plan Approved

### C. V. Jones Is New President Of Merchants

Charles V. Jones, proprietor of Torrance Hardware, was elected president of the Retail Merchants Division of Torrance



CHARLES V. JONES  
Heads Merchants Division

Chamber of Commerce at the annual organization meeting held yesterday in the Chamber of Commerce.

Elected as vice president is Carney Emmet, of El Prado Furniture, Blaine Walker, executive secretary of the Chamber, is secretary and treasurer.

Directors are Jaunetia Mann, of Benson's; Claudia Adams, of Adams Dress Shop; Irving Wiedez, of Allen Jewelers; Ed Brown, business manager of the Torrance Herald and Grant Barkdull, of the Quality Market.

The division presently is negotiating with the Retail Clerks Union, San Pedro, for a contract covering employment during the coming year.

### Legion Gets Concession

The City Council Tuesday night decided that the agreement between the City and Bert S. Crossland Post No. 170 of the American Legion, for the exclusive concession rights at the baseball park be continued for the period of Jan. 1, 1948 to Dec. 31, 1948, and that the payment for such rights be at the rate of 10 percent of the gross sales.

Torrance City Council Tuesday night agreed to place on the April 13 city election ballot an amendment to the City Charter to provide for adoption of the City Manager form of government here, but following reluctance of the Council to give the people an opportunity to vote on operation of public poker halls and councilmanic salaries, the directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce filed notice that it will circulate petitions requiring a public expression on these vital issues.

According to President Charles T. Rippey, of the Chamber, the action is a precautionary move to protect the legal rights of the people to circulate petitions in time to get the matters on the ballot. The council adjourned until Feb. 10, and should its members fail at that time to put the matters on the ballot on their own motion, this date would be too late to publish the legal notice prior to circulating initiative petitions, according to Rippey.

In October three of the then four members of the City Council had agreed at a meeting of the Citizens Committee that the three matters should go on the ballot.

The council readily approved action preparing the way for a vote on the City Manager issue, but when the question of the anti-gambling ordinance and repeal of councilmanic salaries of \$50 a month came up, consideration of the matter was delayed until Feb. 10.

Immediately following the council meeting, the Chamber Board of Directors was called into session by President Rippey and the following motions were adopted:

**ANTI-GAMBLING.** — Board of Directors approved the circulation of initiative petition among the qualified voters of the City of Torrance to amend

the City Charter so as to prohibit the granting of a business license by the City of Torrance to conduct draw poker gambling establishments and so as to prohibit the operation of any such businesses within the City of Torrance.

**COUNCIL SALARIES.**—Board of Directors approved the publication of a notice of intention to circulate an initiative petition (and the reasons therefor) among the electors of the City of Torrance petitioning the City Council to submit to the qualified electors at a special election an ordinance repealing Initiative Ordinance No. 200 of the City of Torrance fixing the compensation of the City Councilmen at \$50.00 per month, and prohibiting the City Council from fixing such compensation except by submission of a proposition to the vote of the people.

"We believe that the people of Torrance should have an opportunity to express themselves on these two vital matters," Rippey said. "It is not that the council is not cognizant of the measures, as far as we see the problem, but the people must not be deprived of their opportunity to vote on the questions if the council is reluctant to place the matters on the ballot on its own motion. Members of the council

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## HIGH SCHOOL CONTROL TO PASS TO TORRANCE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON JULY 1

The accomplishment of the unification of all schools of Torrance under one Board of Education, at the polls last Friday, was the successful culmination in six months of a move which many districts have been striving to achieve for many years.

This was the statement of J. Henrich Hull, superintendent of Torrance City School District,

as he prepared final papers for the official action of the Board of Supervisors, the County Superintendent of Schools and the State Board of Equalization to follow up the election of Jan. 23 by which voters decided 301 to 11 to form a Torrance City School District.

With the formation of the high school district, the Torrance City Board of Education becomes the governing body of the high school district as of July 1, and action by the various official bodies involved will result in formation of Torrance Unified School District, putting control of all schools

from kindergarten through high school, under one board as of that date.

The vote was lighter than anticipated, according to Dr. Howard A. Wood, president of the Board of Education, but he expressed deep gratitude for the confidence of the voters expressed in the balloting which will mean the surrendering of the high school to Torrance Board of Education by Redondo Union High School District on July 1.

The people voted on Jan. 24, 1947, to join Redondo for secondary education purposes following the formation of Torrance City School District by virtue of adoption of the City Charter in August and its ratification by the Legislature on Jan. 6, 1947.

Redondo trustees had agreed that control of the high school by Redondo Union High School

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## Mercury Drops To 29 Degrees In Year's Low

"Boy, it's freezing this morning," said Mrs. Mary Pulley, 2014 Torrance boulevard, as she hung out some bed sheets to dry on her clothes line at 7:30 o'clock Wednesday morning. Returning a half-hour later, Mrs. Pulley discovered how much truth there was in her statement.

The sheets were frozen solid! According to the weatherman it could officially happen as a year's record low of 29 degrees was recorded on Wednesday, Jan. 28.

Temperatures for the earlier part of the week were as follows:

Jan.	Maximum	Minimum
21	59	38
22	62	44
23	62	44
24	61	42
25	61	42
26	65	51
27	60	46
28	55	29



(Exclusive Torrance Herald photo.)  
JANET, MARK, AND JOSEPH MUSSO . . . Triplets, get their first look at the outside world and at their father, Glenn L. Musso, as Dr. Eugene Lee Cook holds up the two boys and a girl who were delivered to Mrs. Musso at the Torrance Memorial Hospital on Jan. 24. The babies were the first triplets ever born at the hospital and the first children for the Mussos. Due to the fact that the babies are in an incubator, Mrs. Musso saw this picture of her threesome before she was able to see the babies themselves.



(Exclusive Torrance Herald photo.)  
THEY LOOK SWELL . . . Glenn L. Musso is telling his wife, Mary, as he kisses her on the forehead shortly after his wife presented him with triplets at the Torrance Memorial Hospital on Jan. 24.

## LOCAL MOTHER GIVES BIRTH TO TRIPLETS IN TORRANCE HOSPITAL

Triplets, two boys and a girl, were born to 24-year-old Mrs. Glenn L. Musso, 2213 Cabrillo avenue, at the Torrance Memorial hospital with the first arriving at 3:33 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24.

Arriving a month prematurely, the first born was Janet Louise, weighing 3 pounds 7 ounces. The second arrived 11 minutes later at 3:44 a.m. and weighed 4 pounds 7 ounces. He was named Mark Glenn. The third, Joseph Robert, arrived 13 minutes after the second and weighed 4 pounds 4 ounces. At present the babies are in an incubator and reported doing nicely.

The triplets were the first to be delivered at the Torrance Memorial hospital in its 22 year history. They were also the first born to Mrs. Musso and her husband, Glenn, an ex-Army sergeant now employed at the National Supply Company.

The physician was Dr. Eugene Lee Cook. Dr. Cook was attending a medical convention in Cleveland and left before the convention was over to return to Torrance to make the delivery.

Mrs. Musso stole some of the limelight from Mrs. Bernard Yeskin, her hospital roommate, who had twins the night before. Mrs. Yeskin, who lives at 1610 Cota avenue, gave birth to two girls, Linda 5 pounds, and Arlene 5 pounds 5 ounces, on Jan. 23. Dr. W. J. Harrison delivered the twins.

The Mussos were forewarned that triplets were forthcoming when her physician, suspecting a multiple birth, x-rayed and discovered the trio.

Mrs. Musso's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Dawson, live at 2212 Andree avenue. The father's mother, Mrs. Helen Musso, lives in Channel Heights, San Pedro.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S  
CONDITION REPORTED  
'GRAVE' BY DOCTOR**

C. Douglass Smith, who was appointed City Attorney in mid-December, was reported to be in "grave" condition in the Torrance Memorial Hospital by his physician late Wednesday night. Smith has been under oxygen for the past several days with a respiratory ailment.

### WEEKEND VISIT

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur O. Fritz, 1563 W. 214th st., accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Fritz, Jr., spent the weekend at Santa Barbara, where they were guests of Mrs. Bertha Hoag.



T. H. S. GRADUATES . . . Commencement exercises for the only winter graduating class of Torrance High School under Redondo Union High School District will be held in the school auditorium at 8:00 o'clock this evening. Pictured are, back row, left to right: John Gaylord Koshak, Lyle Nelson, Eugene William Stirling, Charles Edward Metro, William Smith Floyd; second row: John Joseph Turner, Paul Edward Fortin, Tom Millstead, Philip Theodore Jacobs, Frederick Hutton McWald, Wilson Bonner Paxton, Joan Alma Border, Mildred Malin, Dorothy Leone Smith, Hazel Marie Davis; front row: William Byron Morgan, Frances Van Meter Bynum, Virginia Fletcher Perkins, Oliver James Steppe, Essa Joann Suiter, Idella Chloe Kerns, Beverly Jeanne Browning, Beverly Jean Croker, Margaret Jeanne Aney.