

# Ballot Propositions Reviewed by Herald

No. 1—Veterans Farm and Home Bonds. Authorizes issue and sale of \$150 million in state bonds to provide funds for state department of veterans affairs in assisting California war veterans to acquire farms and homes.

No. 2—Public School Funds. Increases required state support for public schools to \$180 per year for each pupil in average daily attendance, of which each local school district shall receive not less than \$120 per pupil.

Controversial. Those in favor cite inflation and increased population as creating a major crisis for California's schools, declare increasing school revenues from a broad state tax base to realistic levels is the only sound solution to relieve pressure on the local property taxpayer.

Opposition says it would put a dangerously high monetary demand into the state constitution, is unsound because it provides \$120 per child with no regard to need of districts, makes no assurance of local property tax reduction, and would require increase in state taxes.

No. 3—Welfare exemption of non-profit school property. Extends property tax exemption to property used exclusively for schools of less than collegiate grades owned and operated by non-profit, religious, hospital, or charitable organizations.

Controversial. Proponents say California is only state of the 48 which imposes a "penalty tax" on its non-profit schools, this would give such schools tax equality with public schools.

Opponents say it would narrow the tax base by removing millions of dollars in exempt private property, there is no limit to the exemption as in case of colleges, it would be as feasible to exempt all private schools as only schools which are a component part of the church and state, parochial school should not expect taxpayer of another faith to help support it.

No. 4—Payments to Needy Blind. Prohibits imposition of administrative restrictions on manner in which blind recipient expends aid payments. Provides that such payments are for benefit of the blind recipient alone and shall not be regarded as income to any person other than the recipient.

Proponents say that present law does an injustice to the aged blind and only a few cases are involved. Opponents say that it is a "foot-in-the-door" proposition for future extension of the provision to the aged. Should be handled by the legislature rather than by constitutional amendment.

No. 5—Subversive persons and groups. Provides that public office or employment shall not be held by and no tax exemption shall be extended to any person or organization advocating overthrow of federal or state government by force or unlawful means or advocating support of foreign government against United States in event of hostilities. Authorizes legislation to enforce the provision.

Controversial. Proponents say it hits any subversive person or organization in the pocketbook, not just those who work for state of public agency. No valid reason why exemption should be given subversive persons or groups and no one should object to declaring he is not a Communist before receiving such exemptions. Supported by American Legion.

Opponents say this is the way dictators operate and "secret police" would result, it is an entering wedge for politicians to tamper with the operation of the state university, is attempt to control thoughts and conduct of all persons, key terms are vague and ambiguous, is not in democratic tradition of the country.

No. 6—Requires each public officer and employee to take loyalty oath. Applies to officers and employees of state, including University of California, and all political subdivisions and agencies thereof.

Argument in favor is that it will broaden constitutional oath of office now required. Opposition says it bypasses regularly constituted law enforcement, is contrary to essential freedoms guaranteed by both federal and state constitutions, and is trial by association.

No. 7—Ballot designation of party affiliation. Would require at direct primary and special elections the ballot shall show political party affiliation of each

candidate for partisan office, as shown by candidate's registration.

In favor, it would remove any doubt concerning party affiliation of candidate for partisan office, but retains cross-filing which has prohibited machine politics. Opponents say it is improvement but does not abolish cross-filing of candidates as does Proposition No. 13.

No. 8—Taxation of church buildings under construction. Non-controversial. Would exempt from tax church buildings during course of construction, as well as land on which building is situated. This exemption is now provided for buildings and land in actual use.

No. 9—Taxation of college buildings under construction. Non-controversial. Does for colleges what No. 8 does for churches.

No. 10—Prohibits certain expenditures of public funds. Prohibits appropriation or expenditure of public money to any chamber of commerce or other private organization which attempts to influence legislation. Directs attorney general to recover all public money hitherto or hereafter expended in violation, and provides that future operation shall not be affected if retroactive application is held invalid.

Controversial. Proponents say it would prevent diversion of millions of dollars of tax funds each year to support of the state and local chambers of commerce, say much of this money is used to influence legislation, officials of chambers of commerce are not responsible to the people and should have no right to public funds.

Opponents say it would bring no benefits and is merely retaliatory measure conceived by pension promoter George McLain as political blackmail. Many worthwhile projects and programs would suffer, including the 4-H Club program sponsored by the California Farm Bureau federation and the rehabilitation programs of the major veterans organizations. Provisions are so sweeping that court tests would be necessary.

No. 11—Payments to aged persons. Places old age security program under state administration, terminates county administration, eliminates county share of costs. Raises \$75 maximum monthly payments according to cost-of-living increases since 1950 and provides state payment (up to \$25 monthly plus any federal payments) for health services for old age recipients and up to \$150 funeral expenses. Changes property qualifications for recipients.

Controversial. Argument in favor is for relief from misery and suffering for aged, age is state-wide and not local problem, increase is needed because cost of living has risen, state administration will save money through eliminating duplication. Opponent says it would increase the state pension bill by \$100 to \$200 million, would be far more disastrous than McLain's 1948 scheme, state already is liberal with its aged.

No. 12—Military service by public officers. Narrows prohibition against simultaneous holding of state and federal offices so as to permit active military service to less than 30 days per year by public officers. Non-controversial.

No. 13—Prohibits cross-filing. Provides that no person shall be a candidate or nominee of a political party for any office unless he has been registered as affiliated with such party for at least three months prior to filing nomination papers.

Controversial. In favor is argument that people are confused by present system; cross-filing is not non-partisanism, it's political hypocrisy; creates lobbyists in the Sacramento two-party system is foundation of our form of government.

Opposed is argument that cross-filing is right of voter to ballot according to his own conviction and judgment; cross-filing eliminated political boss control and has prevented corrupt political machines; cross-filing has not weakened the two-party system but has strengthened it; Proposition 7 gives information desired without dangers of 13.

No. 14—Repealing constitutional restrictions on Chinese. Language in the state constitution was written in era of hysteria and was almost immediately held unconstitutional. Non-controversial.

No. 15—Taxation for insurance companies and banks. Places state compensation insurance fund in same position as private insurance companies with regard to tax liabilities and exemptions. Non-controversial.

No. 16—Borough form of city government. Gives any chartered city or county alternative of establishing borough form of government either for entire territory or any part thereof, any such borough to exercise such municipal powers and to be administered Thursday midnight.

Three Torrance youths and a Wilmington juvenile are being detained in County Jail by Sheriff's officers after a paper bag believed to contain marijuana allegedly was found in their auto.

Arrested were Patrick Thomas Laine, 21, of 116 W. 223rd St.; Theodore F. Laine, 18, same address, and Bruce R. Hooker, 19, of 2208 S. Main St. Officers withheld the name of the fourth boy, who was 17 years old.

The youths were slated to be arraigned yesterday. They were arrested Thursday midnight.

Police nab boys for questioning on dope charge

Doctors say Pyeatt boy 'favorable'

Doctors yesterday described as "serious but favorable" the condition of 4½-year-old Robert Roberts, son of Dr. and Mrs. Allen Pyeatt, who last week was struck by a car in front of his home.

The lad suffered two broken arms and a head injury. He is at Torrance Memorial Hospital. Robert was playing in a vacant lot across from his home at 804 Cerise Ave. and darted into the street to cross and meet his mother standing on the front porch.

Police nab boys for questioning on dope charge

# RECORD VOTE PREDICTED

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# Home Flooded By Pranksters On Pre-Halloween Trick-Treat Call



HOME-COMING QUEEN HOPEFULS . . . Sixteen pretty Torrance High School coeds were voted into the primaries to seek the title as Queen of Homecoming next week at a Tartar football game. Her majesty and a court will be selected this week. Aspirants are, row one, from left, Jim-

mie Mathews, Joan Stephens, Betty Peterson, Marica Wright, Jeanne Whitten, Arlene Smart and Sally Cordes. Second row, Shirley White, Sue Mayers, Charlene Grace, Nancy Baird, Ellen Koehn, Betsy Shaw and Norma Quine. Alice Evans missed the camera man.

### May Hold Youth Boy Exonerated In Shooting of Sister

Although a coroner's jury has ruled that the fatal shooting of his sister with an "unloaded" gun was an accident, Joe Allen Drews, 14, is being detained at Juvenile Hall while authorities make a complete investigation of the case, it was revealed yesterday.

Young Drews, of 22320 S. Main St., sobbingly turned to his mother for comfort Thursday as the jury ruled that no one was criminally responsible for the death of his sister, Thelma, 12, last Monday.

However, officials said that the Probation Department probably will seek to have the lad made a ward of Juvenile Hall for "lack of parental supervision."

He was one of four children living at home with his mother, Mrs. Bertha Drews, 38. Joe's father was killed in an auto accident last July.

Police told the coroner's jury that Joe was playing with a gun which he found in his mother's bedroom and jokingly aimed the weapon at his sister. She yelled and the boy pulled the trigger, it was stated.

She died 12 hours later at Harbor General Hospital. Funeral services for Thelma were conducted yesterday at Stone and Myers Chapel. Interment followed at Roosevelt Cemetery.

### Police Nab Boys For Questioning On Dope Charge

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### Polio Strikes High School Football Player

Fred Diesel, 14-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Diesel, 1808 East Ave., was in serious condition late yesterday following his hospitalization Friday night with polio.

Saturday he was placed in an iron lung, the Herald learned. A grid player on the Torrance High School Bee football team, Diesel had been ill for two days before he was rushed to Los Angeles County General Hospital Friday night. Tests for polio at the hospital were positive, his mother reported yesterday.

The young victim appears to have a paralysis in his legs, the Herald was told.

### Pranksters Hold Off as Damage Reported Light

Halloween spirit was high but vandalism was low throughout most areas of the city Friday night, according to reports of Torrance police.

Trick or treaters flooded the streets but little damage was reported. Two stop signs were knocked down, a package of gum was hurled at the window of a home, bringing a frighten gun-like report, and a lawn mower was stolen.

Stop signs were sheered off at Acacia and Carson Sts. and at 242nd St. and Ocean Ave. A lawn mower, valued at \$25, was taken from 2444 Los Codona, Hyrum C. Sandberg told police.

But all in all, it was a quiet Halloween, at least as far as policemen were concerned.

### Mortar Alarms ELA Residents

Vic Chatten, 1567 W. 215th St., took his latest invention to East Los Angeles last week and caused all sorts of excitement.

Phone calls from excited residents were received by the sheriff's office as well as the County Fire Department headquarters located in East Los Angeles.

## Vandals Flood Home While Owners Away

Pre-Halloween pranksters who virtually flooded out a North Torrance home are being sought today by police and an irked householder.

A garden hose crammed through the mailbox at the Charles Steadman home, at 16410 Haas Ave., ran an estimated 125 gallons of water onto the wall-to-wall carpeting of the living and dining rooms Thursday night.

Upholstered furniture, the carpeting and floor pad, window drapes, a television set and several tables were soaked to the core by the spray from the garden hose.

Damage Heavy Discovered by a neighbor, Homer C. Webber, the hose was removed but not until at least \$500 damage had resulted, Steadman estimates.

And to top it off, Steadman says, he learned Friday night that his insurance would not cover damage done by vandals.

"My wife and I worked the live-long day cleaning up the mess," the home owner reported. "Our carpet is a total loss and one of the chairs, we just purchased it, was soaked to the springs."

Neighbor Webber told investigators that three boys, 12 or 13 years old, came to his house earlier in the evening and told him that it was "beggars' night." When he refused them, they were very bitter, he reported.

Steadman believes that possibly the same boys took out on their spite on his house, where no one was home.

### State CIO Council Asks Members to Vote Early

The California CIO Council yesterday urged all CIO members and other industrial workers to vote before going to work.

"There is great danger," said California CIO secretary-treasurer, John Despol, "that the last-minute jam-up at the polls in large precincts will result in many voters losing their right to vote by being last in long voting lines at 7 p.m., election day closing time."

### Baby Sitter Saves Children; Fire Leaves Family Homeless

Has anybody got a house? That was the problem faced today by the family of Edward T. McDonald, 23, 20829 Jamison Ave., as all six of them—mom, pop and four kids—searched for a place to live following a disastrous fire which gutted their home and destroyed 99 per cent of their possessions.

The night of the fire, and the night following, they stayed with friends, Mr. and Mrs. James Fowler, 2004 Faymont Ave., Manhattan Beach, although it was a bit crowded. In addition to the six in the McDonald family, there are four in the Fowler family, and all ten were crowded into a two-bedroom home.

No Sleep As McDonald put it: "We didn't get any sleep." Friday they moved back into their razed home, where the four children, all slept in one

bed amid the fumes always left behind by fire. McDonald said he had hunted throughout the area for a place in which to house his family, but not too much success. Everything he saw was way out of his reach, financially, without the only possibility being a 13-foot trailer—obviously inadequate for six people—which rented for \$15 a week.

The blaze broke out at 6:26 Wednesday night, as McDonald and his wife Beverly, 24, left the children with Mary Williamson, 15-year-old baby-sitter of 20813 Shearer Ave., to attend one of their infrequent shows.

When they returned, about 11:30, this is what they found: The inside of the house had been gutted by flames of undetermined origin.

Their brand new (8-day old) television set was a charred piece of wreckage in the front room. Their reupholstered living room set of divan and chair was on the front lawn, in bits. Their deep freeze and refrigerator, recently purchased, were ruined.

Their children were next door, at the home of a neighbor, Mrs. Charles Kirton, 20833 Jamison Ave., all of them unharmed, although Melody, 2, the youngest, suffered a narrow escape. Mrs. Kirton told them the story as she heard it from the Williamson girl.

Mary and the three older children—David, 5, Catherine, 4, and Robert, 3, had been sitting in the front room watching television when Mary noticed a light in the kitchen. Melody had already gone into the bedroom. Mary went into the kitchen to investigate, discovered the flames and attempted to put them out with a tablecloth. Failing to do so, she dashed out of the house with the three youngsters in the front room. Then she noticed Melody was