

PALOS VERDES ESTATES OFFICIAL DENIES MOVE TO BLOCK PENINSULA ANNEXATION

ESTABLISHED 1914

WEATHER

Continued jacket and coat weather is predicted tomorrow, with cool temperatures and partly cloudy skies. High in Torrance yesterday was 62, with low at 38.

TORRANCE HERALD

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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Educators Condemn Proposal

Reports that Palos Verdes Estates might throw a curve to the City of Torrance by wrapping a "surprise" package to block any annexation of the Palos Verdes hills were called unfounded yesterday by Mayor H. F. B. Rössler, of the exclusive hill community.

Rössler told newsmen the City of Palos Verdes is "definitely not interested in a so-called strip annexation plan which apparently was gaining interest among some residents."

Early reports indicated residents along Palos Verdes Dr. North might band together to annex to the City of Palos Verdes, thereby forming a narrow barrier between the present Torrance boundary and the 680 hilly acres now under consideration for annexation to Torrance.

Officials Watch Land
Only comment available from Palos Verdes Estates officials other than their "no" to the strip proposal, was that they were watching the vacant land carefully, and hoped that planners would not allow tiny, city size parcels in the suburban area.

Apparently George Penn, president of the Rancho Palos Verdes Homeowners Assn., fired the first shot on the "strip" question when he asked the Palos Verdes City Council to strongly consider a "strip barrier" along Palos Verdes Dr. North.

Such a strip would prevent the City of Torrance from moving up into the vast hill community.

Great Lakes Carbon Corp. which purchased most uninhabited area in the hills a year ago approached local city fathers last month, asking that the city annex all of their holdings.

Favorable Action Seen
"This we can deal most favorably with the City Council of Torrance than with the County Board of Supervisors if the territory remains unincorporated," a company spokesman told the councilmen.

The Council has asked for detailed reports on the area, and apparently are considering a "bargain package."

Though city councilmen seem to favor the annexation move, a resolution strongly condemning the annexation of any property was passed Tuesday night by the Torrance Unified School District Board.

On the motion of Charles A. Mewborn, the board declared its opposition to the annexation which could add a potential \$16,500,000 or more to school costs, without any complete tax money to pay for it.

24 Schools Needed
The Torrance School Board kicked around figures showing that if the hill areas were developed to its potential, it would require some 22 elementary schools, costing about \$500,000 and two high schools, at a cost of about \$2,500,000.

Scratching its collective head the school board asked where the money could come from, and concluded that it would come out of the school funds of the entire district, to the detriment of the rest of the schools.

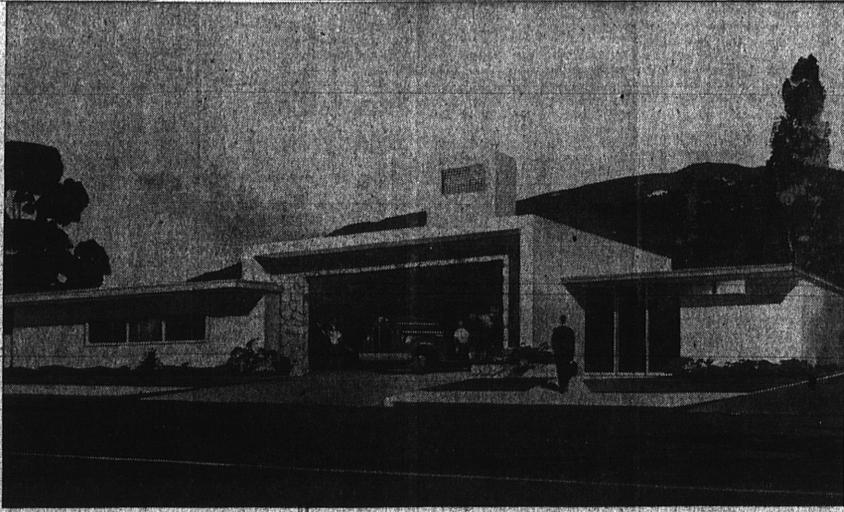
"It would create an impossible burden on the rest of the taxpayers," Board Member Dan Win Farrish declared.

The estimate was based on an average of three houses on each acre of ground, which would place about 20,000 homes in the area.

Resolution Condemns Action
This would add a population which is roughly equal to the present population of Torrance the resolution pointed out. The resolution, in full, read:

"Resolved, that the Board of Education opposes the annexation of the 680-acre tract of the Palos Verdes Property Co., if the plan is developed as indicated, for the reason that the potential development would require approximately 22 elementary schools at a half million dollars each (equipped), and two high schools at a cost of \$2,500,000 each (equipped), which would necessitate a duplication of the present Torrance school facilities in the annexed area, and would add a burden beyond the resources of the Torrance School District."

Whole Area Sought
Although several proposals have been made by the proponent of the hill area, it is pointed out that the homes there have fences.



NEW FIRE STATION . . . An architect's rendering of the proposed new fire station for Southwest Torrance to be located at Calle Mayor and Pacific Coast Hwy., was presented to the City Council Tuesday by Architect Marion

J. Varner. The Council approved the sketch and instructed Varner to proceed with the detailed planning. Varner said he wanted to start building "right away."

Unsafe Building At Perry School Ordered Closed

Acting on a report by consulting engineer J. E. Byers, the Torrance School Board Tuesday night approved the closing of the Perry School Auditorium for public use.

The report showed that expense of making the 60-year-old building safe would exceed its value. If an earthquake roll hit the building right, the roof would collapse, the report said.

Action was taken after Fire Marshal E. E. Lucas indicated that changes were needed to make the auditorium safe for public gatherings.

The board decided to use the area as storage space for furniture and other materials.

A new dining patio for the school is included in future building plans.



READY FOR ACTION . . . Paul Loranger, Chamber of Commerce president, and Marvin Schwab, 1953 "Man of the Year," ready the trophy for presentation in the near future. Nominations are being taken now for "Man of the Year" at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. Eligible are all adults within the city limits, of any race or creed.

Stop Signs Police Job, Board Told

The Torrance School District legally cannot pay part of the expense of erecting stop signs and signals at crossings used by children, the School Board was informed Tuesday night.

An opinion from the Attorney General, sent by the county counsel, indicates that stop signs are essentially police problems, and the school district is required to pay half of the cost only when it has requested the signs.

A survey of 17 other districts in the area showed that none of them pays anything toward these signs.

The City Council had requested that the city schools pay half of the cost of erecting signals, requested at 187th and Crenshaw Blvd., and at Torrance Blvd. and Fern Ave.

Lomita Zone Bill OKayed By County

Zoning for Lomita and the Lomita Pines areas will go into effect in 30 days, as the County Board of Supervisors stamped their official seal of approval on the much-disputed measure, Tuesday evening.

The ordinance was passed following a public hearing by the Regional Planning Commission and the Board. At that time, a majority of those present indicated approval of the zoning plan, it was stated.

Local anti-zoners later declared that the session was a farce, and that commissioners had made up their minds "before we entered the room."

Up to this time, the areas have been unzoned. Zone proponents have waged a 20-year campaign to get the area protected.

Redondo Laws Under School Board Study

The possibility that Redondo Beach may have assumed legal responsibility for El Nido schools when it annexed the area is now being studied by Torrance School officials, the School Board was told Tuesday.

Officials are seeking an opinion on a clause in the Redondo Beach city charter which says that the district shall include "all territory within the boundaries of the city limits or the present school district as they now exist, or as changed to include school purposes."

This clause could mean that when the area, long a subject of controversy between Torrance and Redondo school boards, automatically became a part of the beach city's school district when its city council annexed El Nido.

Although presently uninhabited, a subdivider has announced plans to build homes in the area. It was formerly part of an island of county territory, and was included in the Torrance Unified School District.

If the charter does not apply to this case, a change in jurisdiction may be requested of the Board of Supervisors by a petition signed by ten voters in either city.

Sidney Whaley Named As Hi-Y Boy of Year

Sidney F. Whaley Jr., of Hermosa Beach, has been named the Torrance YMCA "Hi-Y Boy of the Year," Stan Roberts, executive secretary announced yesterday.

A senior at Mira Costa High School, he has been a Hi-Y member for two years. He will compete against other boys in district competition on Jan. 10. The county-wide winner will get \$750, a one-year college scholarship, or a trip to the 1955 Y Conference in Paris.

Auto Parts Stolen

Parts from her automobile totaling \$17 in value were taken while it was parked at 135 Calle Miramar, Mrs. Norma Ella reported to police.

Road Foreman Faces Court In Smashing

Court arraignment for Earl Meacham, of Bellflower, who allegedly smashed into the windshield and rear windows of a car when it drove over a new section of roadway, will be held tomorrow at South Bay Municipal Court.

Victim of the glass-breaking was Bart Vartanian, of Palos Verdes Estates. He told police he was driving down new Hawthorne Ave. when he pulled out onto a new section of roadway.

Meacham, the victim charged, ran over to his car, and knocked out the windows with the end of a push-broom. The suspect was charged with assault and malicious mischief.

Business Census Forms Mailed by Government Men

Torrance business men soon will receive report forms of the 1954 Census of Business being conducted by the Department of Commerce, it was reported yesterday.

All California retail, wholesale, service businesses, theaters and other amusement places, hotels and tourist camps, and other miscellaneous businesses will receive the forms from the Federal government.

Information collected in the census is confidential and will be used by the Bureau of Census in compiling new statistics on business activities of the nation. A previous census was taken in 1948.

Business men are asked to fill in the forms and return them to the Bureau at once.

School Workers to Meet

Regular meeting of the California School Employees Assn. will be held today at 8 p.m., at the Fern Ave. School Cafeteria. Meetings are open to all non-certified employees of the Unified School District, according to Dorothea A. Johnson.

Area Residents Offered Chance To Earn Money

The TORRANCE HERALD will inaugurate a community-wide program on Jan. 26 which will require the employment of a limited number of local residents for eight weeks in part time or full time work. It was announced here yesterday by Publisher King Williams.

The program will enable those working with the HERALD in the project to earn a substantial amount of money. Any club, church, or other group or organization desiring to raise funds may find the program attractive.

Groups interested in obtaining further information about the program should contact W. M. Shurtis at the HERALD by calling FA 8-4000 or by visiting Shurtis at the HERALD office at 1619 Gramercy Ave.



HENNY WARNER To Sing Tonight

Meeting Tonight To Discuss Bowl

Plans to establish an outdoor bowl to house concerts, operettas, and other entertainment events, will be discussed at a meeting of the Pacific Bowl Assn. tonight at 8 o'clock in the Torrance Civic Auditorium.

A meeting, open to the public, will hear plans discussed by Rosemary DeCamp, radio, screen, and TV star.

Daisy Odum Geery, prominent worker in PTA, the South Bay Teachers Assn., and the California State Teachers Assn., and vice-president of the association in charge of membership, and Samuel E. Lundén, architect and designer of the Los Angeles Stock, and the recently completed City Health Building, and chairman of the site development committee for the Pacific Bowl Assn.

Pacific bids will open Jan. 21, while Carl Steele bids will be received after Jan. 27.

Drawings Presented
Drawings of the proposed bowl,

which will be in this area at a site as yet undisclosed, will be presented at the meeting. The status of the program will be discussed in detail before the 1000 association members and other persons attending.

Included in the plans are a stage and seating facilities, for a medium to present cultural programs of various types—concerts, opera, operettas, festivals, and other events. A park and picnic area would surround the bowl, with adequate parking spaces.

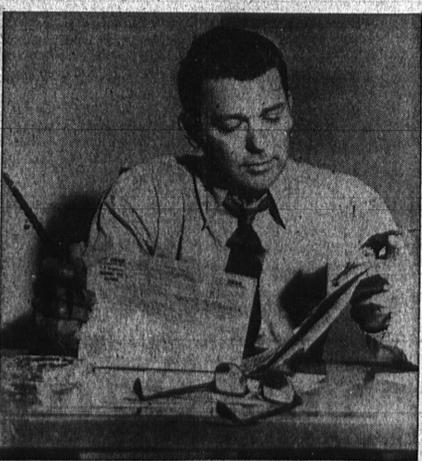
Soprano to Sing
Henny Warner, Berlin Opera soprano, will sing an aria from "The Merry Wives of Windsor," and "Voices of Spring" as part of the evening's program.

Also included is the South Bay Civic Symphony, under the direction of Robert Restia, conductor of the Long Beach Philharmonic Orchestra and a former director at Carnegie Hall and the Metropolitan Opera House. The orchestra will play the "Overture to der Frelshutz" and the "Blue Danube Waltzes."

Chamber Breakfast
Planned on Tuesday

The monthly Chamber of Commerce breakfast will be held Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 a.m., Secretary Dale Isenberg announced yesterday. The speaker will be announced later.

Committee for the affair are John Ebbinghouse and Dave Soble.



UNDER THE WIRE . . . It was just like (Herald Photo) the bank, yes, yes. Sgt. D. C. Cook, Torrance police officer, pounds his 1954 income tax forms, and eyes a couple of bucks, just like those he'll get back from Uncle Sam. Cook's wife had a baby daughter on the last day of the year, giving Cook another allowable dependent for the entire 1954 tax period.

Laundry on Wash Lines Offends PV Man

Scenery, not laundry, was what he wanted to see when he bought his home, an unhappy property owner told the Palos Verdes City Council last week.

The offending sheets, clothes, and other unmentionables dry on the lines of residents living along Calle de Arboles immediately across the Palos Verdes line, he said.

Since Palos Verdes regulations require that laundry hang over the privacy of an enclosure, the resident felt that barricades should be erected to keep out all sight of Torrance

washings, as well as its citizens.

A 50-foot easement strip separates Palos Verdes from Torrance at this point, and in some cases, residents have built fences on the property, or planted hedges, City Attorney Donald Armstrong indicated that this is illegal, since the area is technically a "no-man's land."

The irate citizen invited the City Council to come to his home to inspect the gray or white sheets of Torrance housewives. Although promising to do what they could, the councilmen

indicated there was little they could do.

The view-cutting 500-home Torrance development was built this year.

Fences Would Help
Contacted by the HERALD, Mrs. Lylo S. Anderson, of 426 Calle de Arboles, declared: "If he wants a view, let him look out his front door or sell his property. Personally, I have very nice neighbors. With four children, I certainly have a lot of wash. Planting hedges or building fences would probably help the situation."

"In a way, I can see both sides," Mrs. Harold Leslie, of 430 Calle de Arboles, said. "I think they are being a little unfair. My neighbors have all been kind and helpful."

"Whoever it is that is complaining should realize that most of us who moved into the area are young and have children. We are in the process of fixing up our homes, and eventually they will be proud of us. We have built a high fence around our yard, so it isn't our wash that they are complaining about. I have noticed that not many of the homes there have fences."