

Approval of Annexation Plan Recommended to City Council

Planners Give Unanimous OK

Members of the Planning Commission opened the door—with a few strings attached—for annexation of 6513 acres of Palos Verdes Hills area Wednesday night when they unanimously voted to approve the request of the land holders, the Palos Verdes Properties, the Capital Co., and the Great Lakes Carbon Corp.

The move came at the end of a second public hearing before the planners and serves as a recommendation to the City Council—which now must make the final decision.

The Council will hold a third public hearing Wednesday night in the City Hall, at which time it is expected a final hint of the city's desires will be made. More than 70 people attended last week's session, but except for one outburst of applause, the meeting was fairly quiet.

Conditions Listed
Commissioner William Mason, chairman of the annexation committee, made his report and recommended that the Commission okay the annexation plans with these stipulations:

1. That adequate restrictions be placed in the deeds of the subdividers to insure that lot sizes and character of developments follow those submitted by the land holders.
2. That two ten-acre school sites be donated to the Unified School District, the sites being acceptable to the Board of Education.
3. Hawthorne Blvd. must be projected through the Palos Verdes Hills as diagramed in the brochure submitted by Palos Verdes Properties.
4. A qualified land economist be hired by the city to analyze the reports and statistics as submitted by the Palos Verdes Properties.

Report Accepted
Mason moved that the report be accepted, and that the Commission accept the proposal of the committee. Commissioner Lawrence Wing seconded the motion and there were no dissenters.

Several questions from the floor were asked at Ivar O. Hanson, general manager of the Palos Verdes Properties, mostly pertaining to school sites.

Mrs. Donald Hauser, who stated she represented the Torrance PTA Council, urged that the commissioners hold out for one free site that a price of \$1800 per acre be set for the next three school sites, and a maximum of \$4000 per acre be placed on all remaining school sites which would be required.

This was only one of two proposals submitted by the Parent-Teacher council.

Cost of Schools
Another concerned adding the cost of schools to the cost of the acreage to the subdivider.

Letters from the Board of Education stating that they still were against any annexation were filed as a matter of record.

The Torrance Chamber of Commerce warned the commissioners, in a letter signed by the Board of Directors, that construction of cheap houses would be "dangerous to the future of Torrance, and also urged that the Commission ratify the annexation only if "creeping" development is permitted.

Want Two Sites
They then held out for two free school sites.

Final communication was from the Palos Verdes Properties, the land holders.

They stated that plans submitted during the recent weeks "do in fact represent our best thinking and we will agree to the zoning of the area."

The property holders also asked for three stipulations if their annexation proposal was accepted.

A long-term franchise permitting them to operate the Palos Verdes Water Co. in the area was requested, and a recommendation that the city and the county get together on a mutual program for use of the old abandoned diatome mine.

Okayed for Dump
County planners years ago okayed the site for a dump. Others have eyed the area as a spot for a park.

The third request was that the Commission give "adequate assurance that the present industrial operations of the Great Lakes Carbon Corp. in the area proposed for annexation would not be subject to zoning or other restrictions except as these operations might be governed by city ordinances regulating industrial activities generally."

Restrictions laid down by the supervisors and Regional Planning Commission with the original mine permit last year prohibit mining at night and on Sunday, and regulate the number of trucks on the road at one time, methods of dustless operation, and covers several other matters.

Planning Consultant George Powell told the HERALD that it was his understanding that the Great Lakes Carbon Corp. wanted the mine operations to continue "as is." If this is so, annexation to Torrance would not change the restrictions now on the mine.

Marineland Wowed
Considerable discussion arose as to the inclusion of the multi-million-dollar Oceanarium in the City of Torrance.

Commissioner Bert Lynn said he wanted assurance that the Oceanarium would be included in the city limits. Tax revenue from the area would be considerable.

Hanson said that his firm held "a friendly but not economic" interest in Marineland, but he would work to see if the directors of the Oceanarium would be interested in an annexation.

Otherwise, the area would be one of several unincorporated county islands—receiving services from the County of Los Angeles.

Other islands are Rolling Hills, Portuguese Bend and Portuguese Bend Club, Abalone Cove, Miraleste, and fringes of land bordering the City of Palos Verdes Estates.

Fire protection for these areas is provided by county fire stations on Crest Rd. in Rolling Hills, on Palos Verdes Dr. East in the Miraleste-Eastfield section, and in Lomita.

Police protection is afforded by the Sheriff's office and the California Highway Patrol.

School Board Meeting Set at 1 p. m. Today
The Torrance School Board will hold a special meeting at 1 p. m. today to study special bids on gymnasium and shower facilities at North Torrance High School.

Officials indicated that other matters may be discussed at the meeting.

Public Offices, Close Tomorrow
Torrance schools, city and state offices will be closed tomorrow, a legal holiday for the observance of the birthday of George Washington.

The regular meeting of the Torrance City Council, held normally on Tuesday evenings, will be held the following day, Wednesday, this week only.

Trash and garbage collections will be made one day later this week, but can collectors will be around as usual.

Special meetings today include one by the Board of Education at noon today to consider high school bids and other items, and the City Council will meet this afternoon to name hearing board to consider civil service appeals.

ESTABLISHED 1914

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Killed in Crash

Rites Pending For Teenager

Final rites were pending over the week-end for one of four teenagers killed in an automobile collision last Wednesday evening and another Torrance teen-ager injured in the crash is fighting for his life at Centinela Hospital in Inglewood.

Services for Harold Vance Singleton, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Singleton, of 18086 Regina Ave., are pending at Stone and Myers Mortuary while the family awaits word from the dead boy's brother, stationed with the Army in Germany.

Singleton died Wednesday evening with three other teenagers in a spectacular crash on Rosecrans just west of Crestshaw. Others killed in the crash included:

Margie Glamo, 16, of 15628 Gramercy Place, Gardena.
Sue Kennard, 14, of 15489 Grevillea St., Lawndale.

Emily Goy, 14, of 4707 Redondo Beach Blvd., Lawndale. The three girls were students at Leuzinger High School.

Injured in the crash were two Torrance boys, Richard Weber, 17, of 4324 W. 178th St., and Charles Slaten, 16, of 18329 Roslin Ave. Slaten's injuries were not serious.

Truck Driver George Maddux, 45, of Los Angeles, was uninjured. He told California Highway Patrolmen that the Singleton auto slammed broadside into the cab of his truck on the rain-slick streets.

Young Weber, the least seriously injured, said he was seated in the front seat with Singleton and one of the girls.

Hearing Set On Shooting

Ordered held for Superior Court trial on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon Thursday, was Madeline Taylor, a 40-year-old waitress who police say took a pot-shot at a lover who bawled out on a promise to marry her.

Judge John Shidler set March 3 as the date for the trial in Long Beach Superior Court, Dept. C.

Packed in the back seat on the home-bound trip after classes were the other four passengers. He said Singleton entered the middle lane on Rosecrans to pass another car.

Auto Skidded
When he applied the brakes after passing, Singleton's 1941 sedan skidded on the wet pavement and spun into the path of the westbound truck. Weber told officers after the crash. The sedan was smashed into a flattened heap when the truck hit it broadside.

Slaten's condition was listed over the week-end as "slightly improved but still critical," by attendants at Centinela Hospital.

Weber and the other injured student, Dorothy Young, 17, of 4714 W. 194th St., Gardena, were listed as good.

Five Injured
In another crash Friday evening on Hawthorne Ave., five persons were taken to the hospital with minor injuries after two cars collided head-on near 185th St.

Injured were:
Tom Mereno, 19, of Monrovia.
Kathleen Moreno, 42, 1517 W. 229th St.
Donald Jacobs, 19, 3707 W. 174th St.
Pearl Man, 27, Redondo Beach.
Alice Moe, 31, Redondo Beach.
Kathleen Moreno and Jacobs were listed as drivers of the two cars by California Highway Patrol officers. Officers said one of the autos swerved to miss a stalled car on Hawthorne Ave. and crashed into the other head-on.

Three Others Hurt
About four hours later, three other persons were injured at 190th St. and Crenshaw Blvd. when two autos collided in the intersection.

Taken to Harbor General Hospital were:
David Merle Brooks, 22, of Redondo Beach.
David M. Brooks, 22, of Redondo Beach.

Robert Harold Hull, 31, of Inglewood.
All received head and other bodily injuries.



TO FIGHT POLIO... Mrs. Clara Conner, Torrance March of Dimes chairman, receives a check for \$60.87 from Joe Fazio, high school student body president. Doris Popovich, who was chairman of a fund-raising dance, looks on. The check represented the contribution of students attending a dance recently, to aid the polio fight drive. The money was donated in the name of Fred Diesel, high school boy polio victim.

Judge to Hear Pleas to Halt New Mortuary

A hearing before Superior Court Judge Eugene P. Fay of Inglewood on a bid to halt construction of a new mortuary in Torrance has been scheduled for today following issuance of a temporary restraining order by the court last week.

The new mortuary, now under construction at Cravens and Engracia, is being built on a variance obtained from the city after a long fight last year. H. R. Halverson & Son of San Pedro, who have a mortuary there and in Avalon, Catalina, are erecting the new establishment.

Action to halt the mortuary construction was brought by Earl Miller, of 1304 Arlington Ave., whose residence is near the building.

Should a temporary injunction be granted by Judge Fay, a trial will be necessary to determine whether a permanent injunction is warranted.

Work has been halted on the building, which is across the street from the city's only other mortuary.

County Studies PV Zoning Plan

The County Regional Planning Commission Friday took under submission two plans for the development of the controversial Palos Verdes area.

The commission is considering plans submitted by Ivar Hanson, vice-president and treasurer of Rancho Palos Verdes, Palos Verdes Water Co., and Great Lakes Carbon Corp., as well as the master plan suggested by their own staff for the unzoned, 15-square-mile Palos Verdes peninsula area.

Controversy at the hearing centered around the minimum lot size in residential zones and the proportion of manufacturing to be permitted.

Joining the opposition by the Rancho Palos Verdes Protective Assn. to the proposed minimum lot size of 9000 square feet was the City of Palos Verdes. The city advocated a quarter-mile buffer strip of 20,000 square feet lot size along its limits, to retain the rural character of the area.

Strong resentment was expressed over the fact that the three companies Hanson represented had pushed through three subdivisions on property they had in the area. Residents termed the action "a sample of the kind of methods they'll use in the future."

Costs Explained
Hanson explained that it had cost them \$2900 a day to keep the land inactive.

Residents Wanted
This brought strong protests from residents who said that the land west of Western Ave. should be kept for residential purposes.

David Ruben, of 3101 Palos Verdes Dr. West, Palos Verdes, recommended large sized lots and very little commercial zoning in the area.

The San Pedro Realty Board, however, recommended a minimum lot size of 7000 square feet.

An estimated 2800 persons live in this area, which includes Harbor Heights, north of San Pedro, and the land between the ocean and the city of Palos Verdes Estates, adjacent to the community of Rolling Hills and to Torrance.

Players Plan 'Country Girl' Production

"The Country Girl," nominated for top Hollywood honors as a motion picture, will be presented in its original stage form by the Hampton Players on two week ends, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25 and 26 and March 3 and 5.

Bill Crosby, Grace Kelly, and William Holden play the leads in the movie version, while Carl Rogers, Dorothy Tunis, and Ed Slani have the leading roles in the play.

The supporting cast includes Bruce Sutton, John Rotante, Paul Oliver, Hal Douglas, and Gail Swatman, with direction by Bob Farnsworth.

The story concerns an actor is given an opportunity for a comeback by a successful director who saw him at the height of his career and has never forgotten him. The conflict is between the actor and his wife and the director who still believes in him.

The play will be presented at 8:30 each night in Redondo Union High School Auditorium. Tickets may be obtained at the door, or by calling FR 5-2371 or FR 4-9869.

Parties Set By Two Clubs

Two local service clubs will note anniversaries this week, with special celebrations.

The local Lions Club will celebrate its tenth birthday tomorrow night with a celebration at Vivian Laird's in Long Beach at 8 p. m. Dinner and dancing will follow. The club was founded locally in 1945.

A Rotary Club meeting Thursday night will fetter the 50th anniversary of Rotary International, with Estes Sneed, past national president, as guest speaker.

Clerks, Owners Renew 2-Year Work Contract

The only change in the two-year mercantile agreement between the Retail Clerks Local 905 and the Harbor Area Employers Council related to increased vacations for some employees, union and management officials said Friday.

Ben N. Scott, acting secretary-treasurer of the union, and Frank S. Selover, executive secretary of the employer's council, said in a joint statement, "settlement reflects new gains in harmonious labor-management relations in the Harbor area, and points to the fact that both management and labor agree that industrial stability is a keynote to a prosperous community."

Wages Unchanged
No wage increases were granted under the agreement which will run until Feb. 3, 1957, although it may be reopened on Feb. 3, 1956 for negotiation of hours and wages only. The only change will give employees with seven years continuous experience a three weeks paid vacation annually.

Some 700 employees of retail establishments in this area are covered, but drug, variety, shoe food and liquor stores are under separate contracts.

Bakers Get Raise
The bakery employees were granted a \$2 per week increase, effective Nov. 1, 1954, while liquor employees got a \$2 per week hike. Negotiations for variety, liquor, and radio and TV workers are still pending.

Serving as negotiators for the employers were four Torrance men, Paul Diamond, Carl C. Duncan, Sam Levy, and Selover.

Building Totals Pass \$5,500,000

Four big projects during the first half of February helped to push the monthly building total in Torrance to \$1,198,447 and the year's total to \$5,512,722, according to figures released by Senior Clerk Walter Bradford of the City Engineer's office.

The projects include:
A new Newton School, at the corner of Nancy Lee and Newton St., \$304,000.

A new building for Bethlehem Steel, at 2100 W. 190th St., \$210,000.

Two new 26-home tracts, valued at \$272,540 each. The Vandover Co. will build 26 homes in the 2200 block on 236th St. and 236th Place, while the RGC Construction Co. will build the same number in the 2200 block on 236th Pl. and 237th St.

Leontyne Price Concert Tonight

Vocalist Leontyne Price will highlight the second concert of the current Youth Band-Artists series, set for tonight at 8:15 in the Torrance Civic Auditorium.

For the first time during the concert season, the performance will be open to the public. Approximately 300 seats will be available at \$1 per person. Tickets may be purchased at the auditorium ticket office.

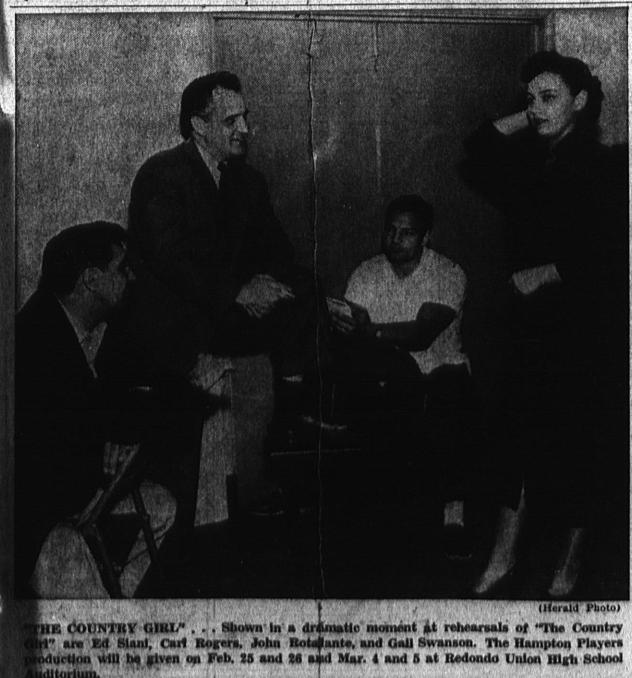
Miss Price will include such well-known works in her presentation as "Black is the Color of My True Love's Hair," by La Montaine; "Fleur Jete," by Faure; and "Bel piacere" from "Agnippina" by Handel.

She will be accompanied by Robert MacDonald at the piano. The Youth Band will play during the first half of the program, with MGM Saxophonist Bill Ulyate being featured.

A variety of band music has been prepared by the group and will include the Overture from Rossini's "Barber of Seville" as well as other light and popular selections.

Ulyate will play "Concertino da Camera" by Ibert. He is employed by Fox Studios and records for MGM.

According to Mrs. Ethel Derouin, chairman of the concert association, a full house is expected at tonight's program.



'THE COUNTRY GIRL'... Shown in a dramatic moment at rehearsals of "The Country Girl" are Ed Slani, Carl Rogers, John Rotante, and Gail Swatman. The Hampton Players production will be given on Feb. 25 and 26 and Mar. 4 and 5 at Redondo Union High School Auditorium.