

Lomitans Turn Down Incorporation By 3 to 1 Margin

"The Committee of 1000 for Incorporation" mustered only 801 votes Tuesday as Lomita voters rejected cityhood for their area by more than a 3-to-1 margin.

With 66 per cent of Lomita's 4098 voters casting ballots, the count stood 801 for incorporation and 2449 against. Lomita now is an unincorporated area, served by the county.

The election campaign ended on a bitter note as incorporationists charged that the anti-incorporationists were campaigning within 50 feet of the polls, and anti-incorporationists challenged the right of the incorporation drive, to vote.

Sheriff's deputies patrolled the polling places during voting hours and two cars were assigned to election headquarters at Fleming Junior High School while the ballots were counted.

Pro-incorporation leaders, who cited the threat of possible annexation by Torrance as a reason for incorporating, had failed three times in an effort to get enough signatures to call an election.

Anti-incorporation leaders had charged that the cityhood move was a "power grab" and that the lists of incorporation supporters were stacked with children, dead persons, aliens, and non-voters.

Five people won what turned out to be only a popularity contest as 13 people sought election to the "city council." Had incorporation been successful, the new city councilmen would have been Clyde Bernhard, with 737 votes; Willard Brown, 600; George Larson, 438; Mrs. Jean Berse, 627; and Ray Ferrin, 599.

Leaders of the Lomita Registered Voters and Property Owners and the Lomita Civic League, which led the fight against incorporation, were jubilant. Under state law, no new attempt to incorporate the city can be made for two years.

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AIRPORT, PARK BONDS REJECTED

A Penny for your Thoughts

With "Halloweenies" scheduled to go out "tricking or treating" tonight, the HERALD's photographer asked this question at the Coast Nursery School:

"What are you going to do for Halloween? Do you believe there really are spooks and goblins out?"

Marnie Woodward, 3, 208 Via Mesa Grande:

"I don't believe in spooks, but on Halloween I'm afraid of them. I'm afraid of witches. I'm going to be a witch on Halloween. We're also going to make a pumpkin totem pole."

Mike McWhorn, 3, 5231 Reese Rd:

"Yep, I've seen spooks at my house. They look like a big egg. I'm going to be a skeleton when I go out to trick or treat. I like to eat the candy I get."

Laurie Boschma, 4, 23034 Doris Way:

"Yes, I'm afraid of spooks and goblins. I made some punks for Halloween — colored them on a piece of paper. I'm gonna be a cowboy for Halloween. I like candy and all the other things you get."

Susan Nobles, 4, 3303 Rain-tree Ave:

"I've got some spooks in my window at home. There are real spooks, but I've never seen any. I'm not afraid of them either. I'm gonna be a bear on Halloween."

Susan Banks, 4, 4705 Binde-wald Rd:

"I'm not afraid of any spooks. I think fairies are the best. I'm going to be a little fairy. We are going to have a punkin too. I think they're real pretty."



"Some men think of themselves as big wheels, just because they're going around in circles."

Cities to Seek Sports Center

Torrance and Redondo Beach officials have agreed to set up a joint commission to push for location of the proposed multi-million dollar county sports center here.

A 132-acre site in West Torrance on the Redondo Beach boundary line reportedly is one of several now under consideration.

Meet Held

Torrance's Mayor Albert Isen and Redondo's Mayor LeRoy L. Center held a joint meeting Tuesday, setting up a group to be known as the Intra-Cities Regional Sports Center Committee. The two mayors and recreation officials, said Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Rolling Hills, El Segundo, Palms Verdes, and Gardena would be invited to join the group which will meet on Nov. 20 at the Steak Knife Restaurant.

At the Tuesday meeting were Torrance's Recreation Director Harry Van Bellehem; Ralph Morris, a member of the Torrance Recreation Commission; and Glenn Donovan, member of Redondo's Recreation Commission.

Resolution Sought

The group will recommend that cities in this area adopt a resolution similar to one recently passed by the Torrance Recreation Commission and the City Council, recommending that the sports center be

located here. Center promised he would bring a similar resolution before the Redondo Council.

The site proposed for the sports center is located between Torrance and Del Amo Bldvs., west of Henrietta St. and east of the Redondo boundary.

RICHARDS MEETS CITY OFFICIALS

In one of a series of meetings he is holding throughout the vast area he represents, State Senator Richard Richards yesterday sat down to an informal luncheon meeting with Torrance civic and press representatives.

The meeting, arranged by Mayor Albert Isen, was non-partisan in purpose covering such subjects as freeways, relations between city and state agencies, and topics of specific interest to Torrance and the surrounding area.

A Democrat, Sen. Richards nevertheless paid high tribute to his associate in the Legislature from both parties for their cooperation in making possible the passage of legislation essential to the welfare of the Los Angeles area. He stated his willingness to be helpful to Torrance in any specific need.

Rivets Reports

The sky will probably be covered with clouds most of the time today, although the temperatures should be a little warmer. Rivets, HERALD weather-erod reported, as he readied his Halloween costume.



High and low temperatures this week included Sunday (86-58); Monday (76-50); Tuesday (81-56), and Wednesday (78-56).

Burglars Get Assortment At 3 Places

An assortment of loot, ranging from cash to frozen hams and premium stamp books, was taken in burglaries at three Lomita businesses this week, according to sheriff's deputies.

As Bea's Malt Shop, 24818 Narbonne Ave., burglars pried open the front door to take \$81 worth of loot, including frozen hams, chickens, bacon, and roasts, a toaster, case of soft drinks, 20 pounds of sugar, gum, and cash from the rifled cigar machine, according to Beatrice Thompson, owner.

Intruders snagged a pound of coffee and a carton of cigarettes at California Trends, Inc., 25109 Ebony Lane, according to Ruth Campbell. The burglars took a board off a window to gain entrance, and ransacked the office.

At the May Drug Co., 1801 Lomita Blvd., Harry German-ski told deputies that \$25 in cash and three green stamp books were taken. The thieves broke a rest room window to get in.

Rash of Burglaries Listed by Officers

A rash of minor burglaries plagued Torrance police this week. Items taken, all told, were valued at less than \$500. W. C. Steele, 1804 Deha Ave., reported a tool chest missing with tools valued at an estimated \$150.

Carline Auto Parts and Supply, 4005 Pacific Coast Hwy., lost hub caps and manifolds worth \$120.

Missing was a .22 rifle, a leather money bag containing 25 silver dollars, camera, hypodermic needles and cigarettes. Total value of the missing items was set at \$101.00. Ruby Novak, 3418 W. 174th St., reported \$38 in cash and five rolls of pennies missing from her home Monday.



SHOW REHEARSAL . . . Star Roberta Lynn gives Police Chief Percy Bennett an idea of what can be expected when she appears as the star attraction at the annual Torrance Police Benefit Show and Dance at the Long Beach Municipal Auditorium Nov. 9. The affair, scheduled to begin at 9 p.m., will feature Jerry Gray's Orchestra and other professional artists.

Red Feather Workers to Open Door to Door Drive on Monday

Residential volunteers under the direction of Chairman Paul Mandel will begin a five-day blitz campaign in Torrance next Monday to help meet a

Don't Make Real Ghosts Out of Little Spooks

Don't make a real ghost out of your little Halloween spook. Candles plus Halloween costumes plus kiddies can mean trouble.

That's the word from Fire Marshal Robert Lucas, who warned parents of trick or treaters against the use of candles when making the rounds of the neighborhood, or at parties at home.

Although many of the witch, skeleton, ghost, and other assorted costumes for Halloween are either flame-proof or flame-retardant, there are many that will become a mass of flame if they come in contact with fire, Lucas cautioned.

A flashlight or electric candle is much safer than a candle, he said.

Similarly, candles should be avoided in home displays or pumpkins, Lucas said. Curtains and table scarves also make a fine bonfire if the display happens to tip over or if the candle is dropped, he warned.

\$19,887 city goal for the Community Chest.

The residential units will join the advance gifts and other committees which have been in the field during the past weeks in bringing the an-

CARSON ST. PARK SITE APPROVED

Immediate acquisition of a park in the Carson area was ordered by County Supervisor Burton W. Chace, Tuesday.

The supervisor, in a motion before the board, instructed County Counsel Harold W. Kennedy to file a condemnation suit on the site.

The Carson St. park site which comprises 6.8 acres is located immediately north of and is adjacent to the Carson St. Elementary School near the intersection of Carson and Main Sts.

According to Supervisor Chace, funds will be provided in the 1958-59 budget for architectural plans and initial development of the park, including the installation of sprinkler systems, walks, and partial landscaping.

Secondary improvements will be furnished in the following year's budget and may include community buildings and lighted baseball diamonds.

Council Change Gets Approval

Torrance voters Tuesday rejected proposals to issue \$1 million in airport and \$3 million in park bonds while approving a charter amendment calling for a seven-man city council with the mayor elected at large.

Handed the worst defeat was the airport bond proposal, which was beaten down by a vote of 3852 to 2855 against it. To carry, it would have needed a two-thirds majority of those voting.

Running a closer, though losing, battle was the recreation bond issue, which polled a majority of 4372 to 2410, but failed by about 150 votes of having the needed two-thirds margin.

Overwhelming approval was given to the proposal to increase the council to seven members. A total of 5378 voters approved that measure while only 1270 opposed it.

Crashes Blamed

Attempts to explain the heavy vote against the airport bond issue varied, but most observers credited recent news of air crashes throughout the Southland, including one recently in Torrance, with turning voters against any improvement in the city's airport.

"What the people don't realize," a Walterian told THE HERALD Tuesday night, "is that we are going to have the airport with us whether we passed the bonds or not. The failure to approve the bonds is not going to curtail airport operations, it is only going to prevent improving the safety factor."

Most city officials and those acquainted with the airport matter agreed with that opinion.

Mayor Disappointed

Mayor Albert Isen, who expressed bitter disappointment at the failure of both the airport and recreation bond issues, charged Mrs. Herma Tillim, former chairman of the

recreation commission, with leading a revolt, saying that she merely resigned from the commission because of the lack of confidence in the recreation bonds.

Mrs. Tillim denied that she led any revolt, saying that she merely resigned from the commission.

"Now I can circulate an initiative petition to put a \$5 million recreation bond issue on another ballot through the demands of the people," she said Tuesday night. She said she was prevented from doing so as a member of the commission.

Approval of the seven man council measure by Torrance voters clears the way for one of the most wide open council races in the city's history.

Seats at Stake

Seats currently held by Isen and Willis G. Blount will be at stake during the coming April elections along with that of a mayor and one other councilman. Three present members, Nick Drease, Bob Jabn, and Victor Benstead, hold office until 1960.

Isen indicated to a HERALD reporter last week that he would seek election as mayor for the new four-year term if the proposal was approved, and George Vico, former major league and Hollywood Star baseball player now employed by the Dominguez Water Co., was introduced at a local service club this week as a candidate for one of the council seats.

Blount has not made any announcement on his candidacy for re-election, but many observers have expressed the be-

(Continued on Page 19)



FIRST CONTRIBUTOR . . . Mrs. Bruce Kittle, 3634 W. 225th St., hands her donation to the current Community Chest campaign to Paul Mandel, Torrance residential chest chairman. Mandel, in turn, gives Mrs. Kittle's daughter, Cathy, the receipt.

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