

COMPLICATED PROBLEM

# Legislative-wise, School Problems Are Complicated—Thomas

By VINCENT THOMAS  
 Assemblyman, 68th District  
 Legislature-wise, life seldom gets more complicated than it does in the field of education and the public school system. Sometimes it seems almost incredible how carefully the pros and cons must be balanced in order to preserve and improve the best qualities of our California school organization. Based as it is on historic tradition of individual districts, nevertheless our surging population growth requires constant reevaluation and realignment of the responsibilities and functions of districts, county school departments, and our state department of education. The complexity of our work in this area was clearly out-

lined at a recent hearing of the senate fact finding committee on education. Spokesmen for many segments of our educational machine appeared to give their views on important matters related to the better education of our children which will come before us at the 1961 session. Administrators, board members from both large and small districts, representatives from many organized groups, and others told the committee their opinions, many of which were widely divergent. The first major subject taken up was the relationship between the county superintendents of schools and county boards of education. It was said that under a 1957 law

amended in 1959, the boards are elected. However, in 50 of our 58 counties, the superintendents are also elected. Some charter counties, Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Diego, provide for the appointment of the superintendent and in five counties, there is only one appointed superintendent. The county board of education then has the responsibility of setting policy, and his duty is to carry it out. SPOKESMEN FOR the association of county superintendents pointed out the difficulties which can arise when both the county board and administrator are elected. Friction as to policy can create situations not for the best interests of

good education. The committee was also informed that a survey made of elected county superintendents reveals that most of them favor appointments to the office by the boards of education, and a substantial number think the law should make it mandatory. Also discussed were the question of whether the boards should be elected by districts, or on a county-wide basis, and the question as to whether the boards should be granted power to set salaries for superintendents. A proposal made in a 1959 measure to transfer certain claim audit functions from the offices of the county superintendents to larger school districts capable of undertaking

the task was also discussed in detail. The change would speed up the handling of claims against the district considerably, and would also reduce expense of handling them. County auditing officials, as well as school administrators appeared in support of such legislation. THE SECOND major area of subject matter investigated that of school district organization. Problems relating to the reorganization and unification of small school districts were also considered. Several specific changes in existing law to improve and simplify the processes involved were submitted by the statewide committee on district organization, a cooperative group representing many segments of school administration and interest. Problems of handling bonded indebtedness of districts newly organized were analyzed. Further development of the master plans

for school district organization in the various counties, required under 1959 law to be submitted for approval by 1963, was reviewed at length. The third major area investigated is the proposal to encourage maintenance of a longer school year by the districts. This would be accomplished by re-defining the unit of "a.d.a." financial support granted by the state, so as to terms. Roger J. Randall, apprentice petty officer third class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer E. Randall of 932 E. Joel, Torrance, is scheduled to graduate Dec. 2 from recruit training at the Naval Training Center, San Diego. Apprentice petty officers are chosen from the ranks of the seaman recruits to assist Company Commanders. The selection is based on individual aptitude and leadership qualities.



STUDENTS LEARN WIRING . . . Instructor Robert McGowan, Flavian School, gives Phil D'Addario and Michael Lewis some hints on how to wire a fuse box. The training is part of the seventh and eighth grade shop program in Torrance Schools, which includes various phases of home repair as well as training in woodwork, drafting, plastic and metal.

## Oldtime Woodshop Classes Turn Stress Toward Home Maintenance

Junior may be a little handier around the house as the result of training received by seventh and eighth grade boys in Torrance. The industrial arts program has moved away from the traditional emphasis on making wooden articles—footstools, shoe boxes, and whatnots—toward a more varied and practical program, according to Assistant Superintendent Albert N. Posner. During the 24-week period of shop training given seventh and eighth grade boys in Torrance, there is increasing emphasis on home mechanics, including basic instruction in electricity, plumbing, and other needed repairs. Boys also do work with plastics and metal.

same time, girls get training in home economics.)

ELIVEN Torrance elementary schools have shop and homemaking units. Each one is designed to serve either two or three schools, depending on enrollment. Students are taken by bus to and from the classes. These "practical arts" facilities are located at Calle Mayor, Casimir, Carr, Fern-Greenwood, Flavian, Hamilton, Jefferson, Magruder, Newton, Seaside, and Walteria Schools. In this way, shop and homemaking courses can be provided for the students without having to maintain expensive and only part-time facilities at each school.

SCHOOL officials emphasize that Junior won't be ready to complete all home repairs and alterations, but he will be equipped a little better to handle such matters. Leading educators, including Dr. James B. Conant in his latest report, feel that industrial arts training is valuable for students of this age. Several of the shop programs include small, framed reproductions of homes, complete with various types of wiring common to most houses. Youngsters get instruction about the basic factors—sockets, wiring, types of hook-ups, overloads, transformers, circuit breakers, and, of course, safety.

## Local Group Sees Defense Day Matters

VARIOUS types of plumbing tools and basic principles are considered, along with the ever-handy knowledge of how to change washers. The boys do woodwork, which used to be the only thing that was included in most shop programs. They learn about the various types of joints which are found in most wood projects and make various small articles which can be used in the home. A few boys try larger projects such as coffee tables.

The Torrance Civil Defense and Disaster Commission convened in a regular meeting at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 14, in the Employees' Lounge, City Hall. Commissioners attending were: Burchett, Ellis, Peterson, Schoonover and chairman Gerald. Various matters taken up during the evening included a request from Air Explorers Scout Squadron 377A sponsored by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for a speaker so that the group might learn about Civil Defense plans for the community; a motion made by Commissioner Ellis that a representative from the Fire Department be sent to Fort McArthur for the indoctrination course on chemical warfare and a report made by Captain Rochefort on Area G activities. Speakers' kits and other material in preparation for Civil Defense Day, December 7, were shown to those attending, along with a Workshop Kit for Group Leaders to be used in training for preparedness. Other items discussed were: a portable hospital, land line equipment, radiological monitoring classes in the Torrance High School system and a medical plan for the South Bay District. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Polio Clinic Tuesday The monthly polio inoculation clinic sponsored by the MD Group at 4193 Redondo Beach Blvd., will be held from 2 to 8 p.m. next Tuesday, December 6. Cost for each inoculation will be \$1 with a \$5 maximum charge for members of one family.

# PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE

**WE MEASURE IT!**

**WE INSTALL IT!**

**WE SEW IT!**

**WE PAD IT!**

**THURS. FRI. SAT. SUN. ONLY!**

**CONTINUOUS FILAMENT NYLONS**  
 By Famous Mills  
 Limit to Present Stock of 1,500 Sq. Yds.  
**FREE 50-oz. Waffle Pad \$465** Tax Incl.  
 42 sq. yds. \$11.57 Per Mo.

**OUR GUARANTEE**

1. We offer you only TOP QUALITY merchandise.
2. Factory-trained mechanics to assure you only the best workmanship.
3. Prompt, efficient, personalized service.
4. NOTE: We offer only American made Broadlooms.
5. A complete selection from America's leading carpet mills—MOHAWK, LEE'S.

**MOHAWK SHANGRI-LA**  
 Luxurious All Wool Tweeds, the pride of . . . Carpet.  
**FREE 50-oz. WAFFLE PADDING \$408.00**  
 42 SQ. YDS. COMPLETELY INSTALLED  
 NO MONEY DOWN! \$13.95 PER MONTH

**HERE'S THE REAL TRUTH ABOUT CARPETING IN SOUTH BAY:**

We know from our thousands of carpet installations that the average South Bay home requires 42 sq. yds. for Living Room, Dining Room and Hall.

**DON'T BE MISLED:** Our prices are based on 42 sq. yds.—NOT some lesser, unrealistic yardage plan as advertised elsewhere!

12' x 12' DINETTE OR BEDROOM

LIVING ROOM 12' x 18'

HALL 3' x 6'

**NO MONEY DOWN! NO PAYMENT TILL JAN. 15!**

**100% WOOL BROADLOOM**  
 Colonial Candy Stripes and All Wool Tweeds!  
 FREE Foam Rubber Pad  
**42 Sq. Yds. \$349**  
 COMPLETELY INSTALLED  
 Tax Included \$11.91 PER MONTH  
 NO MONEY DOWN!

**Famous Mills ALL WOOL TEXTURED BROADLOOM**  
 42 SQ. YDS. **\$336**  
 FREE 50-OZ. PAD Plains & Tweeds  
 Tax Included \$11.57 Per Mo.  
 NO MONEY DOWN!

**Famous Mill 100% Acrilan**  
 America's greatest carpet. South Bay's lowest price. Top Colors!  
**FREE 50-oz. 42 Sq. Yds. \$462**  
 COMPLETELY INSTALLED  
 Tax Included \$15.65 PER MO.  
 NO MONEY DOWN!

**MOHAWK Royal Grosvenor**  
 Mohawk's beautiful new Royal Grosvenor! More stylish—more beautiful—more luxurious—more durable than ever!  
**FREE 50-oz. Waffle Pad \$519.00**  
 42 SQ. YDS. COMPLETELY INSTALLED  
 Tax Included \$17.50 PER MONTH  
 NO MONEY DOWN!

**4 Colors of Splatter Inlaid LINOLEUM \$149** Sq. Yd.  
**ASPHALT TILE 6¢** ea  
 B Group . . .

# RECORD BROS.

SP. 2-1701 FR. 2-8481 16827 HAWTHORNE BLVD. LAWDALE

**ANTIQUE AUCTION**  
 DECEMBER 9TH  
 GENERAL AUCTION EVERY FRIDAY  
 7 P.M. AT  
**DAL'S SWAP SHOP**  
 15617 HAWTHORNE BLVD.  
 LAWDALE OS 5-1692