

# Supervisors Call 'Pledge' Conference

On motion of Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, the Board of Supervisors Tuesday adopted the following motion: "On the Board's agenda today is a report from County Counsel that the recent law suit brought by a school teacher to remove the 'under God' provision in the Pledge of Allegiance has been dismissed. Even though this case has been dismissed, the effect of this litigation is to allow a teacher in a public school to refuse to participate in the daily Pledge of Allegiance. "The courts have ruled that

a student does not have to salute the flag if it violates his religious conviction. However, there remains a grave question of public policy as to whether a teacher should continue to teach in the classroom, where he can exercise great influence on the students, if this teacher refuses to salute the American flag as required by both the laws of the Nation and the State and Board of Education policy.

"The fundamental question faced here is that of allowing a history teacher to use an 'escape hatch' in refusing to give the Pledge of Allegiance, while the overwhelming majority of school teachers give a good example of patriotism, love of country and devotion to our American heritage and principles. The flag of our country is the visible symbol of our loyalty and devotion and our respect for our Nation. The flag has been a symbol in the field of battle to encourage men to victory.

"In the early days of our country Francis Scott Key wrote the immortal 'Star Spangled Banner' when the flag 'was still there.' In our generation, the flag raised at Iwo Jima recalls to the American people respect due the American flag.

"Is it really too much to ask a teacher of any subject in a public school building to take the Pledge of Allegiance—a pledge that has been adopted by the Congress and enacted into law by the State Legislature of California and made a daily requirement by the Board of Education. Is it too much to ask a teacher when he teaches the glorious historical events in our country's achievements and the names of the great patriots who have served in every field—to ask him also to pledge allegiance so he would set a good example to the students?"

"It is my feeling that a public school teacher who cannot in good conscience salute the

American flag should not remain in the classroom, but should be in some position in an office so that his example of refusing to salute the flag will not be permanently engraved on the minds of the students. Therefore,

"I move that the County Superintendent of Schools request a conference of the superintendents of the hundred school districts in Los Angeles County to study this problem and to make recommendations either to the Boards of Education directly involved or to the Legislature to correct this situation."

Army Pvt. Edwardo Cantu Jr., whose parents live at 18336 Regina Ave., participated with other members of the 1st Armored Division in Exercise Thunder, a four-day armor and infantry field training maneuver conducted by the 2nd Armored Division at Ft. Hood, Tex.

## New Credential Law Subject of Trustee Talk

William Norris, a member of the California Board of Education, will speak on the new requirements for teaching credentials at a meeting sponsored by the South Bay Federation of Teachers Saturday.

Norris' topic is "The Fisher Bill: A Revolution in Education." He will discuss the bill as it has been implemented by the State Board of Education.

The meeting will be held at Calle Mayor Elementary School, 4800 Calle Mayor, at 8 p.m.

## Forms Out Jan. 1

Robert A. Riddell, district director of International Revenue Service, has announced that individual taxpayers in Southern California will receive copies of the new 1963 Federal Income Tax form by Jan. 1, 1964. These returns are due to be filed between this date and April 15, 1964.

## Know Your Traffic Laws

Prepared in cooperation with the Traffic Education Bureau of the Torrance Police Department

During the first nine months of 1963, Torrance police investigated 962 traffic accidents in which 524 persons were injured and 11 persons killed.

Violation of speed laws continued to be the chief cause of this unnecessary killing and injuring of fellow citizens.

Failure to yield the right of way closely followed speed as the cause of accidents, and the drinking driver was third.

WHILE THE number of accidents have increased over the number for the same nine months of 1962, the causes of the accidents have remained the same: speed, failure to yield right of way, and the drinking driver.

It is time that the driving public wakes up to the fact that driving requires fulltime attention, a knowledge of traffic laws, and a sincere effort to obey those laws that are designed to keep traffic flow-

ing in an orderly manner on our city streets and highways.

It is time that we, as citizens of Torrance, renew our efforts to prevent traffic accidents that each year injure and kill far too many persons.

ACCORDING TO figures compiled by the National Safety Council, Traffic accidents in Torrance last year cost an estimated \$4 million. With the increased accident rate this year, the cost will go higher.

Now, today, from the moment you read this warning, you are urged by the Torrance Police Department and the Torrance Traffic Safety Council to renew efforts to obey all traffic laws and to do your part in preventing accidents whether driving or walking. By following a few simple rules, you can do a great deal to prevent accidents:

1. DRIVE according to the posted speed limit and reduce speed when warranted. Drive at a speed that is safe for conditions present.
2. Obey all traffic signs and signals.
3. Give signals by arm or mechanical means when turning or changing traffic lanes. Give the signal in sufficient time to alert other motorists of your intention.
4. Give driving your full-time attention. Keep alert and ready to react to any emergency that may arise.
5. Be the type of driver or pedestrian you expect others to be.

## Reconsideration Of School Use Request Asked

American Mothers of Freedom Under God held their regular meeting at the Western Avenue Golf Clubhouse last week and adopted a resolution calling on the Board of Education to reconsider the request of the Youth of Christ to use school facilities.

The resolution called on the board to reconsider the application and to give favorable hearings as that group might care to make."

Youth for Christ withdrew their request for the use of South High School facilities after the board meeting Oct. 7.

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