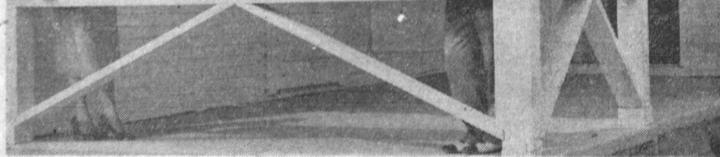


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Third Year TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, MAY 31, 1951 Number 7

Join CIVIL DEFENSE
 A Chance to Serve Your Community



GETTIN' READY—Mrs. Don Hyde, Torrance Red Cross Chairman and George Powell, assistant director of Civil Defense, proudly looks at the sign which identifies Torrance's new service center at 1754 Torrance boulevard. The L-shaped building which will be officially dedi-

cated within the next few weeks, according to Mrs. Hyde, will house the Torrance office of Civilian Defense and the local Red Cross headquarters. New Red Cross phone number is Torrance 3447.

—Torrance Press Photo.

32 PERCENT HIKE IN CITY BUDGET ASKED OF COUNCIL

A DISGRACE
 (An Editorial)

That only thirty voters should go to the polls to "unanimously" elect a member of a school district which is spending nearly \$2,000,000 per year is a disgrace to the American election system — the system by which our liberties have been and will continue to be preserved for all time.

The fact that the trivial response of voters to the call to the polls is due to failure to properly publicize the election — a responsibility of those in charge — likewise is a disgrace and an insult to the electorate.

We do not criticize Charles V. Jones. We think that he is well qualified for the job of trustee of El Camino College District. Also we feel that his friends in Torrance and in surrounding areas probably run into the thousands, and that he could have been elected against any opposition no matter how much publicity the election received.

We do criticize the administrators of the district for their intentional failure to give proper notice to the election. We say "intentional" because we know that they do not want a big vote — and they do not want opposition.

Historically, school elections get a small voter turnout. To make our position more clear, Torrance residents will recall that one of the first things the Torrance school district administration did was to secure the passage of a charter amendment to remove the Board of Education election from the municipal election ballot — which always gets a heavy vote — to a separate election.

El Camino College is a great credit to this area. It is the wealthiest junior college district in the west. We do not object to paying taxes for its maintenance, and for the buildings being constructed there on the five-year "pay-as-you-go" plan.

But, holding elections as they do — without giving proper notice and publicity (even though it may fulfill legal requirements) — is not creating confidence in the administrators. And, if they go through with the plan to ask for another 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation "pay-as-you-go" building program — they will have to let the people "in" on what's going on, and build confidence.

CITY CAN HAVE PARK FOR ASKING

Alondra Park with its multi-million dollar recreation facilities and El Camino College, can be annexed to Torrance for the "asking" with the county of Los Angeles and the College District having no voice in protest, Harry C. Williams, city attorney of Monterey Park, told Councilman Nickolas O. Drale this week. But it would take a favorable City Council, it is pointed out, and so far the Torrance City Council has failed to grant the people of Torrance benefits.

The City Council blames the Chamber of Commerce for blocking the annexation.

The Chamber of Commerce blames the Torrance Industries Tax Committee, headed by R. I. Plomert, Jr., tax consultant for General Petroleum Corp., for influencing the Council against the annexation.

Why the opposition of industry to a move, which will benefit the people of the community, has not been explained.

\$988,307 Urged for Year 1951-52

It will cost 32 percent more to operate the City of Torrance next year than this year, if preliminary budget requests of various city departments are approved by the City Council.

Departments have asked a total of \$988,307.30 for the year 1951-52, against a total of \$749,487 this year, the figures show. This is a 32 percent increase.

On the other hand, estimated revenue figures show anticipated funds for operation of the city next year amount to only \$840,799.

Actual revenue to March 31, 1951, amounted to \$603,966.22, with three months in the fiscal year remaining.

Nearly all departments asked for increases, some almost 200 percent.

Following are the budget items requested for 1951-52, with comparative figures for 1950-51:

	City Attorney	Requested	1950-51
City Council	\$ 8,139.00	\$ 10,174.50	
City Clerk	\$ 28,166.00	\$ 37,359.80	
City Council	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 3,200.00	
City Custodian	\$ 9,100	\$ 9,900	
City Judge	\$ 9,776.00	\$ 11,708.00	
City Manager	\$ 13,139.00	\$ 13,179.00	
City Treasurer	\$ 3,795.00	\$ 4,146.00	
DEPARTMENTS			
Building	\$ 23,738.00	\$ 29,946.00	
Dump	\$ 8,236.00	\$ 7,620.00	
Engineering	\$ 15,522.00	\$ 19,933.00	
Fire	\$ 130,266.00	\$ 198,390.00	
Garage	\$ 4,866.00	\$ 13,321.00	
Health & Sanitation	\$ 25,700.00	\$ 37,650.00	
Painting	\$ 4,345.00	\$ 8,038.00	
Park	\$ 48,282.00	\$ 79,900.00	
Police	\$ 150,077.00	\$ 178,221.00	

Drale Urges Marking Dump Fund

That the city of Torrance should earmark all cash carry-over funds from taxes and other sources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1951, toward the purchase of a site for a city dump or for an incinerator was suggested this week by Councilman Nick Drale.

According to City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, records show that \$205,000 was the cash carry-over for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1950 with \$200,000 carry-over of the year ending June 30, 1949. A carry-over for this year is expected, but the exact amount has not as yet been determined.

MAP OF SITES
 City Manager George Stevens said that he hopes to present to the City Council at their next meeting a map of Torrance showing

Jaycees Say Bond Drive Goal Near

With more than 50% of Torrance employers signed up on the United States payroll savings bond plan, nationwide publicly planned by the government seems almost a certainty, according to George Post, chairman for the Torrance campaign. Eighty percent employer "sign-up" is the goal.

Post said that the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce, sponsor of the drive here, has had 100% cooperation from all the business, professional and industrial employers they have contacted thus far.

The more than 20 Jaycees working on the campaign have contacted more than 100 em-

153 Seniors to End High School Study

Dr. Paul Fisher of the University of Southern California faculty, and principal of Los Angeles high school, as guest speaker, will address the Torrance high school graduating class of 153 at their Baccalaureate Service 3 p.m. Sunday afternoon in the Torrance high school auditorium.

Elementary Classes for Summer Set

The Torrance Unified School District expects to maintain 22 classes for an elementary summer school, it was announced this week by Walter Rehwoald, director of instruction for the district.

The six-week summer session will begin June 18 and will end July 27. School hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

Rehwoald announced that five classes will be held at the Torrance Elementary School, four at Fern Avenue, three at WALTERIA, three at Seaside, three at Perry, and four at the North Torrance Elementary School.

THREE JUDGE PLAN AGAIN WINS OKAY

Los Angeles Assemblymen won their fight Monday to get 84 municipal judgeships in their county under the new judicial reorganization plan.

This would mean that the South Bay court would have three judges. This court would serve Torrance, Gardena and bay cities.

A bill setting up the 84 judgeships won approval of the Senate Judiciary Committee despite opposition from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and from Chief Justice Phil S. Gibson of the State Supreme Court which sponsored the reorganization.

All 32 Los Angeles Assemblymen had agreed they wanted 84 judges in the new plan in order to take care of several incumbent justices of the peace. The County Board of Supervisors, represented by George Wakefield, thought the county needed only 74 judges, while Gibson, who testified against the bill last week, favored 70.

This would have limited to two the judges in the South Bay Court.

The Senate Judiciary Committee last week had refused to approve the bill and suggested the Board of Supervisors, the Judicial Council and the Assemblymen try to work out a compromise.

Water Hole Near McMaster Park Being Filled

The water hole near the street at McMaster Park, complained about by the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, is being filled by the city, according to City Manager George Stevens.

The City Council received a letter from the association concerning the water hole at the council meeting of May 22.

Drale Stand On City Bids Gains Support

Frank Brennan, head of the Hollywood Riviera organization which has been supporting Councilman Nick Drale and the Press in efforts to restore bus service to the wealthy Southwest Torrance area, has joined in a protest against the purchase of cars, buses and garbage service without bids.

However, Brennan got the support of the City Council and was told that bids will be called for on the buses.

Fighting for the calling of bids on all items purchased by the city costing \$1000 or more, Councilman Drale at a recent City Council meeting changed his previous "yes" vote on five automobiles purchased to a "no" vote.

Drale stated as reason for his changed vote was that bids for the five cars had not been opened publicly.

Drale, at the same meeting, also cast a negative vote for the \$7,000 appropriation of traffic signals on Torrance boulevard at Arlington avenue and Cota street and at five-point intersection. He was overruled by Mayor Bob Haggard, Councilmen Ed Karlow and Harvey Spelman.

Riviera Bus Line Awaits Approval

Restoration of bus service to Hollywood Riviera, championed by the councilman Nick Drale, the Torrance Press and a group of civic-minded citizens of the area, awaits the approval of the City Council, it was reported this week.

The Council's transportation committee, composed of Chairman W. Blount, Councilman H. Spelman, who was responsible for the motion to abandon the line, and Councilman Ed Karlow, "burned the midnight oil" after the Council's regular meeting May 22 to bring out a recommendation that the service be restored.

Blount in open meeting acknowledged the receipt of a letter regarding service to Hollywood Riviera from Frank Brennan, chairman of the Riviera group's committee, and said that he would meet with his committee after the Council meeting.

The Council adjourned at about 9 p.m., and the members "felted" to the inner-chambers.

At 10:30 p.m. those in the City Hall said the meeting had not yet begun, and those waiting for the results, including Brennan, left the City Hall.

The next afternoon, Blount called Brennan and announced the group had approved restoration of service, and had okayed

INGLEWOOD PROVIDES PARKING

Two new off-street parking lots have been provided by the City of Inglewood to attract business to that community, Sam Levy told the Press this week.

Levy, long an advocate of a sensible solution to the parking problem in Torrance, said that two large plots in the Inglewood civic center had been purchased and improved at a cost of about \$100,000 to relieve the parking problem and provide more off-street space.

The lots are equipped with meters, to partly offset their cost, but parking is free on Sunday and weekdays after 6 p.m.

Record Activity Now At Torrance Airport

The Torrance Municipal Airport is now home base for more aircraft than ever in its entire history as a municipal airport, it was revealed to the Press this week by Edward Dietrich, operator. About 35 planes are stationed at the field, a record over the past averages of 40 to 70 aircraft.

An average of 50 planes operate from the field each day, Dietrich added.

He said that the added facilities recently brought to the port by E. G. "Slim" Kidwell, account for the greater portion of increased activity there.

Two Alert Patrolmen Nab Thief

Alertness of two Torrance Police officers while on a routine patrol in Hollywood Riviera Sunday night was the downfall of one would-be building material thief.

Apprehended by police officers M. H. Porter and Jay Stroh on suspicion of grand theft was Warren Bruce Hoewner, of Van Nuys. The officers said that while patrolling the area, they noticed a panel truck parked in front of a residence being constructed at 405 Calle de Castellano. They found Hoewner crouched in the rear of the truck with about \$100 worth of roofing materials, such as shingles, nails, hatchets, and other items

Hearing Today For Accused Child Molester

Charged with the bold molestation of a 7-year-old North Torrance girl, Harold W. Gossett, of 17114 Ardath street is due for a preliminary hearing before City Judge Otto B. Willett 2 p.m. today. It was announced by Detective Sergeant Percy Bennett, of the Torrance Police Department.

The 33-year-old painter is being held on a \$5000 bail.

Bennett said the tiny victim picked Gossett from two lineups after investigators tabbed him as a suspect.

The girl related that she had been grabbed while on her way to school on the morning of May 15. Virtually at the grounds of the Prairie Ave. School, she

Concert, Highlight of Adult Festival Tonight

A free combined fashion show, square dance and social dancing exhibit, arts and crafts display, and a concert of light classical music will highlight the Adult Education Arts and Crafts Festival at the Torrance high school auditorium tonight, May 31.

Starting at 8 p.m., exhibits on display in the Auditorium will include leathercraft, upholstery work, woodworking cabinets, textile painting, ceramics, and cake decorating. Two square dance sets will put on an exhibition to start off the show, followed by a ballroom dancing exhibition under the tutelage of Charles Bryant, a former Arthur Murray instructor.

The fashion show will feature dresses, suits, and coats made by actual members of adult classes at three locations: classes of Mrs. Laycock, Mrs. Marsh, and Mrs. Holt.

The musical part of the program will be conducted by Abe Milstein and will include Student Prince selections, "Danny Boy,"

26 Persons Seek Homes

At least 26 people are looking for places to rent in the Torrance trading area, according to Ross Sciarrotta, 1620 Beech street. Sciarrotta placed the following 80c classified ad in the Torrance Press — results — 26 calls.

NICE one-bedroom apt. Living room, bedroom, dining room, kitchen and bath. Centrally located. Call 2240-W.



THE HARMONICA SHARPS — Shown above will be one of the many outstanding acts appearing in the Jumbo June Jubilee, June 1 in the Torrance Civic Auditorium. Bill Wesson, 12, above on the Bill Gwinn CBS telecast. Butch Brown, 13, and Ken Huffman, 14, have already completed fifteen television shows, which included network spots. They are shown above on the Bill Gwinn CBS telecast. (See Story on Page 9)