

SOUTH BAY COLLEGE:

# Some Common Sense on the Subject.

**(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following letter was written to state college trustees by Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts, a Torrance resident vitally concerned that the projected South Bay State College be established in Torrance. Her provocative letter is printed today because of the clear thinking and intense interest it expresses.)**

Gentlemen:

Last Thursday I sat through the hearings of the Site Selection Committee as they considered the different advantages of a Torrance or Palos Verdes site. As a mere housewife I was hesitant about asking to be heard when not a part of the official program. However, on further consideration I think it is high time some plain common sense was interjected between the experts testimony.

As I listened to the statements of the two lawyers for the Santa Fe Railway and the standard oil Company, the most pertinent point to me as a layman was their reference to the Torrance oil field as a pool contiguous to and continuous with the Wilmington field. Basically, then, the conditions of the oil drilling on the two areas of land being considered as college sites cannot be vastly different from the oil conditions on other land that is a part of the Torrance oil field.

Something is radically wrong with their figures in the multi-millions for adapting the oil production to make the land usable for other purposes. When we moved to Torrance fifteen years ago the city had a population of about ten thousand and the land to the south and west of the city

proper was dotted with oil wells. In these intervening years housing developers have found it practical to solve the oil problems sufficiently economically and acceptably to build and sell hundreds, even thousands of homes in the area. The Del Amo Estate Company, very close to the sites being considered, found a way to solve the oil problem before they built their multi-million dollar development. These people had to cope with the oil problem in such a way that the surrounding land would be desirable for sale and lease, profitably, so I am reasonably certain no one of them spent some twenty million dollars adapting the oil production.

On the land south of Sepulveda you are considering, developers have recently purchased the land from the Standard Oil Company and

the Marble Estate. They have left Standard Oil some seven acres of the 370 to continue the oil operations, but immediately surrounding the seven acres they intend to sell and lease housing at figures high enough to insure them a profit, so it cannot be the unsightly, objectionable obstacle you might infer from the lawyers' statements.

True, there is indeed a problem with putting the college on the Torrance site. But it is a problem dozens of people before you have solved economically and acceptably. I believe Inglewood and Los Angeles schools are now considering granting oil leases for just such production from their school sites to increase their revenue. My point is that once the oil problem is solved for the Torrance site, you would have the college

in a compatible community where it could develop harmoniously with the entire community.

Contrast this, if you please, with the Palos Verdes site, certainly more beautiful but in the midst of a community that has taken radical measures to preserve its exclusive residential character. I cannot imagine the continuing relationship between such a community and an integrated school with a working, driving student body.

Palos Verdes Estates has barricaded their streets at the Torrance boundary, even I understand vacating the land and deeding it back to the adjoining property owners, to preclude any traffic between the tract houses in Torrance and the exclusive houses in Palos Verdes. These barricades still exist at the boundary

along Hollywood Riviera section of Torrance.

When the Grandview tract was developed on the Palos Verdes peninsula, the City of Rolling Hills incorporated for the sole purpose of keeping their area exclusive. Their streets are not open even to their peninsula neighbors as they have controlled gates at the boundaries of the community, thus eliminating any access to the proposed college site from the San Pedro area without going completely around the City of Rolling Hills.

Nortronics sits in solitary splendor in the research park because the people of all the peninsula so volubly protested any zone change to permit assembly of prototype models that make the area acceptable to other industries for research. When the land developers realized the area was not acceptable

to industry with the limited zoning acceptable to the people, they tried to have the area rezoned for single family dwellings. Because of the potential increase in traffic the peninsula people protested effectively enough that the zone change was denied by the Regional Planning Commission. Having the college locate there would be a wonderful solution for the land owners and the merchants. But all these things add up in my mind to a continuing inharmoniousness between the college and the peninsula community.

I was shocked to hear the Palos Verdes spokesman answer Dr. Dumke's question that he knew of no opposition on the peninsula. If he doesn't, I do. During the seven weeks preceding the election I worked every day in the Peninsula Center as the headquarters chairman of the Palos Verdes Republic

Headquarters. During that time over three hundred women were in and out of the office doing volunteer work. Since I was working concurrently on the Torrance College Committee, I discussed the situation with many of them and found not a single one who wanted the college in Palos Verdes. Opposition may not be organized, but it certainly exists. Traffic and integration were the two factors repugnant to the people.

These thoughts presented here represent my personal viewpoint, as I have not discussed them with other members of the Torrance Advisory Committee. I apologize for writing at such length in longhand, but I am traveling with my husband and do not have a typewriter available.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts

## Chest Volunteers Push Toward Drive Deadline

With Harbor City-Lomita the first area to reach its Community Chest goal, Harbor Area volunteers continue clean-up operations, aiming for an overall 100 per cent report by Thursday noon, Fred Mill, area chairman, said today.



**RESIDENTS MISSED** during current Community Chest campaign are reminded by Chest volunteers that they can still mail contributions to Community Chest, 200 E. Anaheim, Wilmington. Volunteers are (l-r) Edward D'Anna, Torrance; Mrs. Alan N. Ducommun, Rolling Hills; and Charles Galligan, loan executive of Standard Oil Co.

## Hansel and Gretel Run as Current Hampton Offering

One of the best-loved stories of all time is the legend of Hansel and Gretel. This beautiful classic will be brought to life on the Hampton stage when the Hampton Players present it as their Christmas production, currently playing each weekend through Dec. 22.

The 10 youngsters in the cast are assisted by three

adult actors. There has never been a witch to equal the whimsical "witch wicked" as portrayed by Harry Clark, Jr., who has toured all of the United States and Europe as a pantomimist, and appeared for 21 weeks with Judy Garland at the Palace Theatre, New York. He has had his own tele-

vision show and has another pending. Hal Piccus and Maggie Cuthbert, who play the father and stepmother, both have several previous Hampton plays to their credit.

Hansel and Gretel are portrayed by Michael Wright and Michele Craycroft, who have been seen in many productions both at Hampton and elsewhere in the South Bay.

Letters have been sent to past givers of record in Palos Verdes and Rolling Hills, and residents are asked to return these as soon as possible so they can be tallied for next Thursday's report.

Residents and businesses missed during the campaign can still send a contribution (all income tax deductible) to Community Chest, 200 E. Anaheim, Wilmington, and these will be credited to their city, Mill said.

Contributions at this firm earned employees the highest Community Chest award—the bronze plaque, Mill said.

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## Tuba Soloist Highlights Bay Concert

George Frederick Boujé, world-famous tuba soloist, will appear as guest artist with the Beach Cities Symphony Friday, Dec. 14, at 8:15 p.m. at Mira Costa Auditorium in Manhattan Beach.

This concert will be the symphony's holiday gift to the young people of the bay area.

Conductor Louis Palange has carefully chosen program-type music familiar to everyone.

Included in the program is a special symphonic arrangement of "Chopsticks" by Conductor Palange; William Tell Overture by Rossini; Capriccio Espagnol by Rimsky-Korsakov and George Kleinsinger's "Tubby the Tuba" played and narrated by Boujé.

Boujé has been granted special permission by the composer to use his own arrangement and adaptation of "Tubby the Tuba" in which he plays solo tuba, narrates and does eight different voices.

Cues arrive in such close sequence that split second timing is required between symphony and soloist. The giant Martin upright tuba that Boujé will play has been loaned by the Petro Brass Collection especially for this concert.

An added attraction will be the appearance of the Westchester Concert Chorus performing Joseph Wagner's "Story of a Princess" based on a work by Oscar Wilde.

The chorus, comprised of 30 members from Inglewood, Southwest Los Angeles and the South Bay Area is under the direction of George Pilon.

Narrator will be Lloyd Stone, coordinator of the Los Angeles Bureau of Music. Five other short selections will be sung a cappella by the group.

There is no admission charge for this concert and the public is cordially invited.

**APPEAR IN FESTIVAL.** Bishop Montbomery High School will be one of seven high schools participating in the Invitational Archdiocesan Choral Festival at Mount St. Mary's College Little Theater today.

The 1 p.m. festival will be at 12001 Chalton Rd., Los Angeles.

FREE CLASSIFIED AD: John L. Garcia, 1659 W. 214th, Torrance

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday  
December 9, 10, 11

WALT DISNEY'S  
**'BON VOYAGE'**  
Fred MacMurray  
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Kerwin Matthews  
Glen Corbett  
Maria Landi

SWAP MEET  
Wed., Sat., Sun.  
8:00 A. M. - 4:00 P. M.

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**VEL'S FORD** gets official sendoff in new location during ribbon cutting ceremonies Friday. Taking part are (l-r) Jack Clark, Vel's general manager; Ben K. Kazarian, Jr., vice president; Vel Miletich, president; Bobbet King, Miss Torrance; Albert Isen, mayor, and

Martin M. Denn, president of Torrance Chamber of Commerce. New sales and service facility is on Hawthorne Blvd. a block north of Torrance Blvd. —PRESS photo



**HAROLD H. LITTEN**  
Takes PR Job

## R. A. Watt Co. Names Litten To PR Post

Appointment of Harold H. (Hank) Litten as director of public relations and advertising for the R. A. Watt Construction Co. and its subsidiaries was announced today by President Ray Watt.

In being named to the newly-created position, the native Californian also will serve as a member of the corporate executive committee.

Litten's appointment is another step in the personnel expansion program by developer Watt, 1963 Home Association president, whose residential, apartment, industrial, commercial and mobile home projects stretch from Sacramento to

Sam Juan Capistrano. Litten, who attended San Jose State College and Washington and Lee University before graduating from his hometown Whittier College, is a veteran newspaperman and public relations executive.

He was one-time assistant executive director of the Public Relations Society of America and is active in the society's Los Angeles Chapter where he has served as vice president and member of the Board of Directors. For the past five years he has been assistant to the president of one of Southern California's prominent development firms.

One of his first assignments is to develop an immediate and long-range public relations and advertising program for the highly diversified R. A. Watt organization which has 18 projects currently in operation and owns more than 2,000 acres of land in California for future development.

Use Torrance Press classified ads. Phone DA 5-1515.

**BBO** WONDERFULLY BAR-B-Q'D  
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**EXCITING SCENE** from current Hampton Players offering, "Hansel and Gretel," features (l-r) Lorraine

Shinder, Michael Wright, Harry Clark Jr. and Michele Craycroft. Play runs each weekend through Dec. 22.

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