

# Schools Vs. Dollars: An Unending Spiral

By BOB LUPO

What's the dollars and cents story with the Torrance Unified School District?

The district, with its nearly 30,000 pupils, and swelling attendance rolls, adopted its official budget this week for 1963-64 — a whopping record \$14,697,000. Estimated income for the year will be \$14,438,000, leaving a deficit of about \$259,000. The difference will be made up from the reserve fund, built up by the remainder of money derived from the 50-cent special override voted two years ago.

One year the district used the money, and one year they saved it for this year's anticipated deficit. When the three-year override expires next June, the district's reserves will be dangerously depleted, and the

school board expects to have to go to the voters for another 50-cent override.

Additionally complicating matters are bids by teachers and other employees for more money, not calculated in the present budget.

### Costs Keep Rising

This problem was exposed in its complicated details at this week's board of education meeting.

With the district attendance rising as Torrance continues to grow, and with costs of equipment, maintenance and building, along with everything else in our fast-moving society, rising steadily, the budget can only go up each year. Education — our most necessary tax-bill item — will cost more and more each year.

For a while additional assessed valuation should help the picture, but the district

tax rate — which is somewhere in the middle of the county's comparable districts — will have to go up eventually, either through a more or less permanent override or series of overrides, or by special levies.

This coming year, the school board expects to hold the line in its overall tax rate of \$3.17 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

### Tax Structure Told

Granting of duty-free lunch hours to teachers will add \$69,000 to the budget, but this will come out of the community service tax, which is expected to be reduced this year, from 10 to about four cents. The lunch-hour change will put trained recreation people in charge of non-time activity and give teachers a much-needed mid-day break.

The district's tax structure is made up about as follows: \$1.65 basic maximum tax rate, a 75-cent permanent override, a 50-cent three-year override, 10 cents community service levy, and 17 cents of miscellaneous assessments.

A major headache looming for the district's school board is the teachers' and other employees' salary increase demands, combined with jurisdictional squabbles.

The Teachers' Education Assn. (TEA), with about a 98 per cent membership of the district teachers, gave the board a multi-pronged request for improvements in salary and insurance schedules.

Most of these were endorsed by the rival American Federation of Teachers

(AFT) — membership undisclosed — which, however, characterized some of the TEA requests as a "waste of taxpayers' money."

### Protest . . . and Protests

In addition, the classified employees' (non-teaching) union is seeking \$30 a month across the board in September and another \$10 in January. Their spokesman warned the school board — which has slashed maintenance and operations budget items — that any type of "speedup" will result in a "long and loud protest."

It appears likely that any further increases in compensation resulting in further budget deficits will bring loud and long protests from taxpayers.

(More on this subject next week)

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WISTFUL CLOWN gets ready to do stuff at eighth annual aquacade, carnival and open house tonight and tomorrow staged by Torrance recreation

department. Clown is Dee Manning, of recreation department staff, shown at last year's funfest. (See story on page A-2)

### HOW ABOUT YOU?

## He's Given His Blood —46 (Count 'Em) Pints



SIGNING UP as a donor for the Torrance-Lomita community blood bank to be held Thursday is Brian J. Bell, right, an engineer at Hi-Shear Corp., whose donation to his company's group account with the Red Cross blood pro-

gram will be his 46th since 1950. Left is Mrs. Charles Weidell, Hi-Shear's blood chairman, who recruits donors to represent the corporation at community blood banks.

Brian J. Bell, an engineer at Hi-Shear Corp., is the ideal type of participant in the Red Cross blood program.

When he rolls up his sleeve to give blood Thursday during the Red Cross bloodmobile's visit to the Elks Lodge No. 1958, at 1820 Abalone, he'll be repeating an action which for him has become routine.

He has been a regular blood donor since 1950 when he gave his first pint of blood on his 18th birthday in London, England.

Shortly after his eighth blood donation in England, through the National Blood

Transfusion Service, he came to the United States.

### 'No Ill Effects'

On his record with the American Red Cross, three blood donations are recorded in Milwaukee, and eight at various military bases during his tour of duty in the Army. Since moving to California in 1955, he has given 26 pints of blood.

His reason for having given a total of 46 pints of blood:

"It's easy. I receive no ill effects. I have yet to miss it, and knowing that someone else can use it to perhaps save their life is quite gratifying," he declares.

"If there were more Brian

Bells, our worries would be over," says Mrs. Robert Orsini, blood program chairman for the Torrance-Lomita Red Cross branch.

Bell's donor record and attitude are what blood program chairmen consider truly ideal.

He's a willing donor who needs no prodding or reminding. He believes in the program and unselfishly participates on a regular basis.

By giving blood in the name of his company, not only is he personally protected, but all Hi-Shear employees (donors and non-donors alike) and their families are insured of having blood available whenever and wherever it is needed.

### Building Credit

Hi-Shear, other industrial firms, plus churches, social, fraternal and civic organizations in the area who have established group accounts with the Red Cross blood program, will be building credit with their donations at Thursday's bloodmobile.

Mrs. Orsini says others interested in the group account plan, in just giving for their personal credit or in making replacements of blood already supplied by Red Cross in the past to someone with no credit should call her.

By phoning Mrs. Orsini between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at FA 8-0647, appointments to give blood may be arranged. Red Cross volunteers manning the local Red Cross office, FA 8-0501, are also signing up donors for Thursday's bloodmobile.

room with accommodations for 240 persons, a banquet room, coffee shop and lounge.

Adjoining the concession area will be a professional shop, locker rooms, starter booth and storage facilities.

The building will be a one-story structure containing approximately 18,125 gross square feet. Floors will be mesh reinforced concrete slab, with exterior walls of concrete block.

Site development will include paving, walks, landscaping, exterior lighting, drainage facilities.

Construction time on the clubhouse contract is 270 calendar days from signing of the contract.

## Los Verdes Golf Course \$459,639 Job Awarded

The board of supervisors this week recommended award of contract for construction of the Los Verdes golf course clubhouse in Palos Verdes to Collins & McPherson, Inc.

Actual signing of the agreement on the firm's low bid of \$459,639 will be executed by the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Assn., which is financing the project.

Six bids ranging to a high of \$511,478 were received by county engineer John A. Lambie.

The contract provides for a golf course clubhouse with facilities for a concession area consisting of a dining



WASHING CARS to earn money for aid to a Korean orphan are members of the Teen Mannequins. Car wash will take place from 11 a. m. to 3 p. m. tomorrow at the Standard sta-

tion at Peninsula Center. Price of car wash will be \$1. Pictured are (l-r): Misses Diana Barclay, Barbara Buxton and Laura Converse. Getting in on an extra bath is Taffy, the pup.



RIDE 'EM COWBOY—This was action scene from Sunday's RCA Rodeo winding up the annual Ranchero Days fete here. More pictures will appear in Wednesday's Press. PRESS photo by Gordon Akers.

### NO EDITORIAL PAGE — JUST THIS WEEK

The Press was unable to run its regular Friday editorial page today because of mechanical problems. Its features will appear in the edition of next Wednesday, Aug. 14. The regular full Friday editorial page will be back next Friday, Aug. 16, and every Friday thereafter.

### Robber Gets \$185 In Motel Holdup COUNCIL SKIPS A MEETING

An armed robber took \$185 from the Jump 'n Jack Motel early yesterday morning. Perry Tollas, Long Beach, was operating the switchboard when the gunman entered the motel. Tollas was told to be quiet and hand over all the money in the cash register. The robber then fled on foot on Pacific Coast Highway. Torrance police are now looking for the suspect.

Torrance city council will next meet at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 20. Next Tuesday's meeting was wiped off the books to enable councilmen to attend a national convention in Houston, Tex. Last Tuesday's meeting, accordingly, was adjourned to Aug. 20.

The next Torrance Unified School District board of education meeting will be at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Aug. 19.



WELL-DERIVED victory smile lights the face of Miss Penny Jean Costa of the "Stoney Burke" series, who presented the first USO Doll of the Month award to Miss Costa. Volunteer workers are in great demand. Call Mr. Lcyrne (MA 6-0522) for information.

Commerce, and Warren Oates, co-star of the "Stoney Burke" series, who presented the first USO Doll of the Month award to Miss Costa. Volunteer workers are in great demand. Call Mr. Lcyrne (MA 6-0522) for information.