

Yugoslavian Junket Vetoed by Councilmen

Torrance Press-Herald

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Published semi-weekly Wednesday and Sunday by King Williams Press, Inc. Entered as second class matter January 30, 1914,
at Post Office, Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879

Series II, Vol. 1, No. 93

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3238 Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance, California — Wednesday, May 19, 1965

By Carrier 50¢ Per Month
By Mail \$12 Per Year

10¢ Per Copy 68 Pages



SLEEVES UP . . . All-out support of the Red Cross blood program was given by 161 city employees in an exclusive visit of the mobile unit. From left, police officer Thomas A. Woolridge, William Critchfield, assistant manager of the Torrance airport and Fire Capt. George Blahnik were among the donors.

Group Charges School Material Is 'Tainted'

Action on demands that the Torrance schools discontinue the use of children's records made by an allegedly subversive company was delayed Monday by the Board of Education. The board will wait for replies to a letter of inquiry sent to state and federal agencies before acting on the matter.

The matter came before the board when Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Lee Jr. of 2065 W. 162nd St. protested the use of the children's records in kindergarten classes. Mr. and Mrs. Lee asked that their use be discontinued because the company, Young People's Records, and a subsidiary, Children's Guild, has been cited by the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities as subversive.

A LETTER signed by the Torrance Committee of Parents Concerned About Communist Records, 1308 Crenshaw Blvd., claimed the companies were listed as communist and subversive in the 1948, 1949, and 1961 reports of the State Senate committee. Citation in reports of the

House Committee on Un-American Activities also were listed.

JAY KUDE told trustees that the companies have been cited by the government as subversive. He said he couldn't understand the opposition to removing the records from schools "based on the evidence now in fact."

Some 60 persons jammed the board room and adjoining hallway to protest, at least initially, the use of tax dollars "to buy records from companies operated by communist purposes." The debate lasted for more than an hour.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, told board members he had sent letters to the California State Attorney General, the U. S. Attorney General, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation requesting information on the firms. Dr. Hull also said he had written the firms asking them to furnish evidence "which either bears out the charges or refutes them."

WHEN BOARD members first suggested action be delayed until replies are received, parents voiced objections to continued use of the records. Several persons claimed the records are made purposely to "jangle the ner-

vous system of the children and hypnotize them."

Dr. Hull told the board he and his staff had carefully researched the 1961 "Guide to Subversive Organization" publications published by the House Committee on Un-American Activities and could find no reference to Young People's Records or the Children's Record Guild. He said the guide supercedes all previous guides to such organizations.

THE CUMULATIVE index of the 11th report of the California State Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities, published in 1961, does list Young People's Records, referring readers to the 1948 and 1949 reports.

Dr. Hull said the district no longer purchases records from the two firms because "we have found better things." Records which the district has purchased are, however, being used in classrooms.

On motion of Dr. Kurt Shery, the board postponed action "until more pertinent information is available." The voice vote was unanimous.

City Renewal Project Stirs Council Debate

Council 4-2 on Request

David K. Lyman got the cold shoulder treatment from most of his colleagues on the City Council last night when he requested permission to attend an international meeting of city officials.

Lyman sought permission for himself and one other councilman to attend the International Union of Cities meeting June 19 through 26, being held in Belgrad, Yugoslavia.

"In my own mind, this trip would be beneficial to the city," Lyman said.

When councilmen reacted coolly to the idea, George Vico announced he "was the other fellow who wanted to go." Vico went on to say he would oppose all trips if the council felt this one was unnecessary.

Other councilmen wanted more information of the conference, but were told by City Manager Edward J. Ferraro that "time is of the essence."

"I'm going to make the motion for him to go," Vico said, (Continued on A-2)



REALTORS CITED . . . Proclamations setting aside the week of May 23-29 as National Realtors Week were presented to officials of the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors Tuesday by mayors of the two cities. Here Mayor Joe Haslam of Lomita (seated, left) and Mayor Albert Isen of Torrance (seated, right) put signatures to proclamations while Board President Albert Z. England (left) and Chairman L. Milton Isbell look on from behind. (Press-Herald Photo)

Strings Around Federal Funds Bring Comment

Torrance's urban renewal project, involving land at the west end of the Municipal Airport, is moving ahead at a near record pace, but that didn't prevent some councilmen from voicing concern about the project last night.

Councilmen, who double as directors of the Redevelopment Agency which controls the project, voiced their concern about a lack of communication when they were asked to approve the hiring of a financial consultant.

J. A. Beasley wanted to know who had decided it was necessary to hire a man from the east—one who has had experience in keeping books for urban renewal projects—instead of a local certified public accountant.

"I'M TIRED of running around the circle the HHFA (Housing and Home Finance Agency) has got us in," Beasley said. "Why do we have to hire someone from Cape Cod?"

"You've been told many times that when the federal government gives, it controls," Ross A. Sciarrotta answered.

Sciarrotta's remarks drew brief applause, which prompted David K. Lyman to voice his concern about apparent opposition to the program. "I'm tired of giving the football a kick everytime someone gets the chance," he said. "If that's your feeling, I'm ready to reconsider my position."

CITY MANAGER Edward J. Ferraro, who doubles as executive

director of the Redevelopment Agency, told councilmen he had recommended the consultant because "we are taking \$6½ million in federal money and we have to keep books according to a manual." He said he wanted the best man for the job—one with experience.

The council approved the request, but expressed concern that they have been told very little about the project since they first approved it.

"We are the ones responsible for it. I want to know what's going on," Beasley said.

J. B. MOSLEY, who has previously spoken for residents of the project area, then got up to protest re-

Aide Hired For Project At Airport

Russell Sloniger, former assistant director of the Pasadena Redevelopment Agency, has been hired in the same capacity in Torrance.

City Manager Edward J. Ferraro said Charles Shartle, city planning director, will return to his duties in city hall as soon as Sloniger is familiar with the status of the Torrance project, which includes an area west of the Municipal Airport.

Shartle has been working as assistant director of the agency for the past several weeks.

School to Install New Data Processing System

Plans to improve the speed and versatility of the Torrance school's fledgling computer operations were approved by the Board of Education Monday evening, pending a review of the plans by a citizens' committee.

The conversion to more sophisticated equipment is in line with recommendations made by the board to Dr. Wallace Muelder, a data processing equipment consultant, and the citizens' committee last year.

If the plans get the approval of the citizens' committee, the district will begin using the IBM 1440 system in March, 1966. Equipment will be leased at a cost of about \$3,000 per month.

S. E. WALDRIP, assistant superintendent of schools for

business, told the board that conversion to data processing equipment will cost the district "some money to get into it." Waldrip said the use of the new equipment will permit the district to grow substantially without adding new personnel.

The data processing equipment also permits quicker access to necessary data and will be used in accounting and inventory control.

"We are talking about some relatively simple machines that process some rather mundane things," Waldrip said. "This machine won't plot a course to Mars."

Trustees agreed to re-activate the citizens' committee when Bert M. Lynn said he didn't think board members could evaluate any report on data processing equipment.

IN OTHER ACTION, the board:

- Authorized Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, and two other staff members to attend the third annual Industry-Education Conference in Los Angeles.

- Referred discussion about changing the name of the Torrance Education Advisory Committee (TEAC) to the committee. Concern has been voiced in recent months that the TEAC is often confused with the Torrance Education Association (TEA), a professional organization of Torrance teachers.

- Adopted a resolution investing \$1.5 million in district funds in short term treasury bills.

- Awarded a contract worth nearly \$13,500 for sprinkler system at Torrance High and Victor Elementary schools.

New Airport Commission Will Meet

Members of the city's Airport Commission will meet Friday for an orientation session. City Manager Edward J. Ferraro told the Press-Herald last night.

The commission, recently increased to seven members, serves as an advisory group to the city council. Commissioners are now appointed by individual councilmen, with the concurrence of a majority of the council.

Appointed to new terms on the seven-man commission were Jack Bossman, Bud Blankenship, Don Marasek, Joe Doss, Paul Regalis, John Baisdell, and Homer Morgan. They will meet with city officials for a close look at some of their new duties.

Awarded Grant

Elizabeth R. Perreault, 3312 W. 178th St., has been awarded a grant-in-aid by the John and Beverly Stauffer Foundation. She is a student in the Los Angeles Trade-Technical College vocational nursing program.

Seat Belt Clinic Set May 22-23

The Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce will conduct a safety clinic in the city May 22 and 23, according to Jim Clauson, publicity chairman for the Jaycees.

Clauson said the Junior Chamber would sell seat belts for \$5 per set and install the belts free. Accessory items such as head rests also will be available.

The clinic, which has the support of the Torrance Police Department, will be held on the southwest corner of Hawthorne Avenue and Sepulveda Boulevard.

Clauson said Detroit automobile makers have announced plans to install seat belts in the rear seats of 1966 models. He urged all car owners to install rear seat belts if they do not have them.



TURNS OVER DUTIES . . . Robert Allen (left), principal of Riviera School and retiring president of the Torrance Elementary School Principals Association, turns over the gavel and all presidential duties to his successor, William Forrest. Looking on is Don Credell, new first vice president of TESPA. Forrest is principal at Madrona School, while Credell is principal at Edison Elementary. (Press-Herald Photo)