

Council Approves Sale of Bus Lines to RTD

Press-Herald

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TIME TO TRADE . . . Motorists driving along Torrance Boulevard in the vicinity of Victor Street yesterday may have wished they had been able to use this motor boat, parked on the front lawn of a home opposite the T-intersection. Nearly 5 inches of rain were recorded at the Torrance Municipal Airport as the first major storm of the season struck this city. Many intersections throughout Torrance were flooded, although little major damage was reported. (Press-Herald Photo)

First Storm Hits City; 5 Inches of Rain Falls

Power Fails as Lightning Hits

Power failures were reported in parts of the city last night as the season's first major storm, appearing to let up, turned on the Southland once more. Lightning, which began its thunderous display about 5:15 p.m. Tuesday, struck several transformers in the Southeast section of Torrance and in Lomita. Power was off in some areas for more than an hour. Three 16,000-volt circuits were hit by the lightning and numerous individual transformers were knocked out, Lew Jenkins, district manager of the Southern California Edison Co., told the Press-Herald early today. Jenkins said the storm was one of the worst he had seen. There was no estimate of the cost of damages.

City Votes Funds for Escrows

The city of Torrance is keeping its promise to supply funds to property owners caught between two leases in the Meadow Park urban renewal dispute.

Last night, the City Council appropriated \$97,000 in city funds to close escrows in two property settlements described as "hardship cases" by Lawrence P. Irwin, deputy executive director of the Redevelopment Agency.

CITY MANAGER Edward J. Ferraro had requested a total of \$562,000 from the council to complete all settlements. The council decided to withhold the remaining funds, however, until Friday, when a judicial ruling will be made on the validity of one of two petitions circulated by the Active Citizens of Torrance.

The petition, in effect, is holding up federal funds that would have been used to close the escrows. The petition calls for an election to determine whether or not the people of Torrance wish to disband the Redevelopment Agency.

COUNCILMEN expressed increased concern over what they termed the failure of the federal government to honor the urban renewal contract it had made with the city. Councilman David K. Lyman suggested that the council (See COUNCIL, Page A-2)

MAJOR PROBLEM area in Torrance was the area between Torrance Boulevard and 239th Street and Western Avenue and Crenshaw. Emergency crews were dispatched to begin repairs and by early today, service had been restored in most areas, Jenkins said. "Every available man is on the job," he added. Jenkins said there was no way to tell how many customers were affected by the power failures, but added that lightning damage was "very widespread."

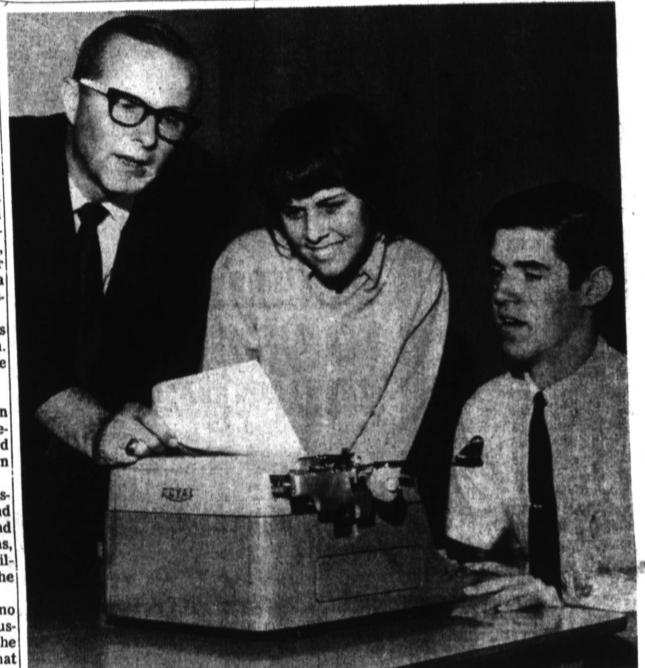
The storm, which moved into this area Sunday, has been blamed for 21 deaths. No deaths have been reported in this area.

NO MAJOR damage has been reported in Torrance, although there were reports of homes being flooded in parts of North Torrance.

Walter M. Nollac, director of public works for the city, told the Press-Herald that several streets had to be closed Tuesday afternoon when water passed the curb line and appeared to threaten homes. Most of the threats have subsided, he reported.

Nollac said three homes in the El Nido area sustained water damage. There were reports of water damage to homes in the vicinity of 180th Street and Regina Avenue in North Torrance, although Nollac said he had no knowledge of such flooding.

NOLLAC SAID flooding was reported in such "usual trouble spots" as 190th Street and Hawthorne Boulevard, Victoria Jones, western manager of



AWARD WINNERS . . . Tom Rische, journalism instructor at South High and advisor to the school's newspaper, "Sword and Shield," discusses a story for the next edition with co-editors Debbie Ohlman, 17, and Hunt Miller, also 17. The "Sword and Shield" has been named an All-America award winner in the annual Scholastic Press Association competition. Rische, in addition to his duties at South High, writes the popular "Letter To My Son" column for the Press-Herald. (Press-Herald Photo)

Work to Begin Soon

Bids for College Buildings Opened

By **DOUG HUFF**
Press-Herald Staff Writer
Signing of a contract for the first permanent buildings at Cal-State-Dominguez Hills is expected by Friday following

the opening of sealed bids yesterday at the college's temporary site, 809 E. Victoria St., Dominguez Hills.

J. A. Campbell Construction Co., Inc., of Long Beach is the apparent low bidder with a bid of \$1,773,539.

Master architects for the college, A. Quincy Jones, FALA, and Frederick E. Emmons, AIA, estimated construction costs at \$1,803,000. The Campbell bid was \$30,000 below the estimate.

A total of 13 firms bid for the project. Three of the firms came in below the architect's estimate. They ranged from a high of \$2,019,000 to Campbell's winning bid.

"I AM very pleased that three of the bids were below our architects' estimate," Dr. Leo F. Cain, CSCDH president said afterwards. "After so many years of planning it is a delight to everyone concerned to see that actual construction is so near."

Completion of the single-story laminated wood, concrete block and glass buildings is expected by September, 1968. Capacity will be 600 students. Enrollment presently is nearly 400 full-time students.

Eventually when other sections of the campus are built the initial buildings will be

Delay Meeting

The Torrance Airport Commission has postponed a meeting scheduled for tomorrow to Thursday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m. The session will be held at the city hall, 3031 Torrance Blvd.

converted for use as a separate "small college" as part of the overall academic program.

GROUND BREAKING ceremonies are scheduled for 11 a.m. Dec. 5. Lt. Gov. Robert M. Finch will be the honored speaker and join with Dr. Cain in turning the first shovelful of earth.

Dignitaries from the state and local level will be present. Ceremonies will be followed by an open house for the public and a luncheon for the dignitaries and news representatives.

Site of the groundbreaking will be off Victoria Street a few hundred yards east of the present temporary facilities.

By **NATALIE HALL**
Press-Herald Staff Writer

Torrance bus riders will probably be dealing with another transportation company—at a slightly higher rate—starting Jan. 1, 1968.

The Torrance City Council last night voted tentative approval of the sale of the Torrance Municipal Bus System to the Southern California Rapid Transit District.

Only one obstacle remains in the path of the sale. Councilmen agreed that further details should be worked out on the job placement of those municipal bus drivers who wish to stay with the city.

Fear was expressed that improper placement of these men might conflict with civil service regulations and precipitate more lawsuits against the city. One such suit, in-

volving Police Sergeant Tom Woodruff, is currently being settled.

Five councilmen voted in favor of the bus line sale, with Mayor Albert Isen and Councilman George Vico dissenting. Isen said that the transfer would mean no real saving to the city, since area taxpayers will have to subsidize the RTD operations here anyway.

The mayor added that the city will lose control over the bus line if the city ceases to subsidize costs within a few years. He said he didn't think the public would be satisfied with the new arrangement.

Councilman David K. Lyman spoke in favor of the transfer, stating that RTD plans to upgrade local service and wants to avoid duplications. He said RTD is giving

Torrance and other cities a chance to bow out. The change will also be beneficial to municipal bus drivers in the long run, Lyman said.

Councilman Kenneth Miller concurred with Lyman, arguing that the city should "grab what we can get now" rather than wait two or three years when the city may find itself without anything.

Isen injected that he would prefer a gradual cut-down of municipal service as RTD improves its routes.

Under the terms of the tentative sale agreement, RTD will purchase 15 buses from the city, together with fare boxes and spare parts inventory, for \$110,000 in cash. The city will keep one bus for use on special occasions.

The contract also stipulates that the city will pay RTD

Members of the American Chemical Workers Local 528 are scheduled to meet tonight to discuss the latest contract offer made by the Dow Chemical Co.

A strike scheduled to begin last Monday—when the current contract expired—was postponed until tonight's meeting, the Press-Herald was told.

No request has been made for extension of the contract on a day-to-day basis, it was reported.

Dow officials said the company had made its "final offer" last Friday night. Jack Jones, western manager of

RTD Plan Approved by 5-2 Vote

public relations for the firm, used by American forces in the Vietnam war. Some 200 persons are employed at the plant—but only 15 are involved in the production of napalm, officials said. About 125 are reported to be members of the union.

Dow officials have said they will keep the plant open if the strike materializes.

provides for a 12 1/2 per cent increase in wages and fringe benefits. He described the offer as the "largest in the history of the plant."

The Torrance plant, located at 305 S. Crenshaw Blvd., produces most of the napalm

proposed two-year contract service routes will be kept as they are. After the two years are up, the city may continue the existing service, add to it, or eliminate parts of it, in each case paying RTD any operating loss incurred as a result of a change. If the city does not choose to exercise this option, the Rapid Transit District will then assume full control of routes and schedules.

Base fare is expected to increase from 25 cents to 30 cents. The only route change contemplated is the extension of Torrance Line One from its present terminus at Ninth Street and Broadway to Sixth and Main streets via Broadway and Sixth Street.

Union Calls Meeting on Contract Offered by Dow

Trash Pickups Delayed

Trash collections normally made on Thursdays will be made Friday this week because of the Thanksgiving holiday, Walter M. Nollac, director of public works for the city, said yesterday. Nollac said trash collection crews would work Saturday to make normal Friday pick-ups. The crews will return to normal schedules next Monday. Press-Herald offices will be closed tomorrow, as will banks, city, county, and state offices, and most retail businesses.

Carson Filing Will Open

Prospective city council candidates in the Carson-Dominguez area may begin filing for office Friday, Supervisor Burton Chace said today. Chace said candidates for the five-man city council to be elected if the area's bid for cityhood is approved must file on or before Dec. 14. The Dec. 14 date also is the deadline for voters to register in order to be eligible to cast ballots in the Feb. 6, 1968, election. Voters will decide the incorporation issue, elect a city council, and choose between "Carson" and "Dominguez" as the name of the new city.

Three Killed in Crash

A Lomita family of three was killed in a Cincinnati, Ohio, crash which took the lives of 66 persons late Monday afternoon. They were identified as Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Gallegos and their 3-year-old son, Randy. No local address has been given for the family. Seventeen persons survived the crash, but five were reported in serious condition in Cincinnati hospitals. Also killed were John Coy, 36, of Rolling Hills Estates, and an Inglewood woman, Mrs. Angeline Waldron.

Freeway Closed By Fire

A tank truck driver escaped with nothing more than a cut hand and minor head lacerations early yesterday when his truck and trailer containing some 7,500 gallons of JP-4 jet fuel jackknifed and erupted in a fiery ball of flames on the southbound San Diego Freeway.

Marvin E. Phipps, 42, of El Cajon, told California Highway Patrolmen he was southbound on the freeway about 6:08 a.m. when a car ahead of him spun out of control.

Phipps attempted to avoid hitting the vehicle and his rear trailer whipped around and ruptured, involving both the truck and car.

Driver of the car, Stefan Rittner, 32, of Inglewood, also escaped uninjured from the holocaust. Ten units from the County Fire Department, using high expansion foam, quelled the last flames at 7:20 a.m.

Both sides of the San Diego Freeway between the Long Beach and Harbor Freeway interchanges were closed to all traffic until 10:15 a.m. The accident occurred between Carson Street and Wilmington Avenue.