

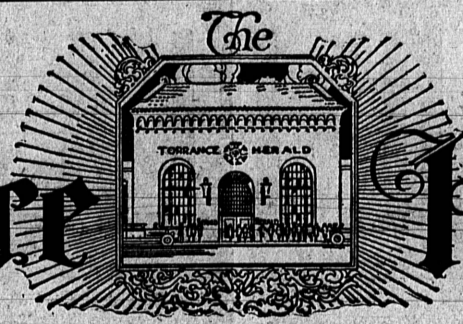
"A City Without Adequate Parks and Playgrounds Is Like A House Without Windows; It Is A Poor Place In Which To Live!"

Only Newspaper
Published In Torrance

Over 60,000 People Live
Within 5-Mile Radius

Extra
PARK AND
PLAYGROUNDS
EDITION

Torrance
and LOMITA NEWS



Herald
and LOMITA NEWS

Extra
PARK AND
PLAYGROUNDS
EDITION

SEVENTEENTH YEAR—No. 24

TORRANCE, CALIF., SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1931

5c PER COPY

PARK BONDS DESERVE YOUR VOTE

VOTERS WILL DECIDE TWO IMPORTANT CITY PROBLEMS

Two-Thirds Majority Necessary to Carry Park Bonds; 20 Candidates for Freeholders' Board of 15 to Draft Charter; Election Information.

Twenty-six hundred registered Torrance voters are qualified to go to the five polling places here Tuesday, June 9, to stamp their decisions on two of the most important ballots ever to be voted on in this city.

A two-thirds majority is necessary to carry the \$150,000 park-playgrounds bond issue, which is the half of the consolidated election that is now receiving the most attention of citizens. Approval of this bond issue assures the employment of several hundred men, at part-time, for a number of months in order that the proposed large city park and several children's playground areas may be created this summer.

The other half of the election is devoted to the naming of 15 freeholders from 20 eligible candidates who will draft a city charter which will raise the status of the community from sixth-class to a chartered city, authorized to progress under its own constitution. The polls will be open from 6 a. m. until 7 p. m.

Where to Vote
Consolidated Precinct "A", which includes regular city precincts 2, 6 and 7, will have as polling place, 2275 Torrance (Redondo) boulevard.

Consolidated Precinct "B", including precincts 3, 4, 5 and 8—polling place city fire hall, 1518 Craven avenue.

Consolidated Precinct "C", including precincts 9, 10 and 11—polling place American Legion club house, 2252 Carson street.

Consolidated Precinct "D", located in Wateria, and including all of Torrance precinct No. 1—polling place, store building, 3612 Walnut street, Wateria.

Consolidated Precinct "E", comprising the McDonald Tract, Lomita precincts 2 and 4 and Lomita precinct 5 as far as they lie in the city limits of Torrance—polling place, 18205 Prairie avenue, in McDonald Tract.

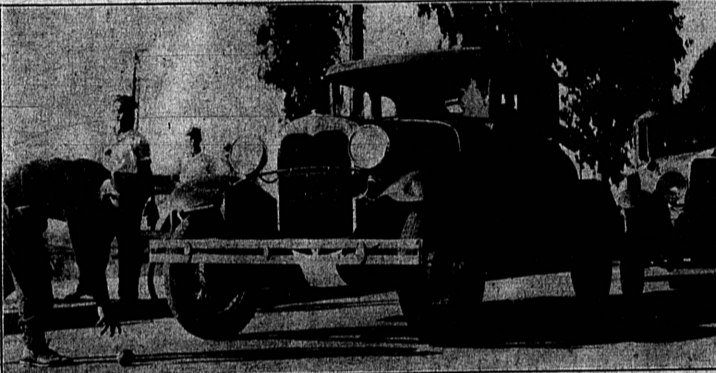
Park's Low Cost Cited
City Engineer Frank Leonard has made a careful study of the cost of the park-playground project to individual taxpayers. He has reported that the expense of the contemplated recreational advantages will be less than 90 cents a year to the average home-owner whose property is valued at approximately \$4500 and which is assessed at \$1800. The cost of the park-playgrounds to the average vacant lot owner, whose property is valued at about \$2000 and which is assessed at \$800, will be less than 35 cents a year. This is possible because the Chamber of Commerce has agreed to maintain the park and playgrounds, without additional expense to the people of the city, from its advertising and promotion fund.

The decision to place the election of freeholders who will write the constitution and by-laws of the city on the June 9 ballot came as the result of more than two years intensive study by the various committees and directors of the Chamber of Commerce. Such a charter, it has been declared by governmental authorities, lifts a municipality out of the all-too-general category of "sixth-class" to the position of a city eligible to participate in the benefits made possible by its own local constitution.

Freeholders Candidates
Thomas L. Cassidy, 1518 Marcelina, an electrical machinist at the Pacific Electric shops; C. Earl Conner, Plaza hotel, commander Bert S. Crossland Post, No. 170, American Legion; Robert J. Deinger, 2463 Carson, assistant cashier of the First National Bank; C. M. Howard, 1308 Cota, proprietor of grocery department of Quality Market; Carl Hyde, 1605 Hickory, executive secretary Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. J. S. Lancaster, 1503 Post, prominent physician, surgeon; Frank R. Leonard, city engineer,

IS YOUR CHILD'S LIFE WORTH 90c A YEAR?



HERE'S PICTORIAL EVIDENCE of the world's best reason why Torrance should have children's protected playgrounds. This youngster is about to become a victim of our present inadequate vacant lot play areas. You can perhaps save a life with your vote for the Park-Playgrounds Tuesday!

Workers Wanted

A call for volunteer workers with cars to assist in taking voters to the polls is made by the Campaign Committee. All those willing to help are urged to attend an organization meeting at 7 p. m. Monday, June 8, at the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

SMALL BOY NEAR DEATH AS RESULT OF RUN FOR BALL

Struck By Auto When He Dashes From Vacant Lot Into Street

Physicians despaired today of saving little Tommy Jones' life, the boy having been perhaps fatally injured when he was hit by an automobile while chasing a ball that had been batted from a vacant lot where he and several other boys were playing baseball.

The vacant lot was unprotected by fence or screen and when Tommy went after the ball in the street he did not look out for passing cars.

This is a specimen story of hundreds you have read. Tommy is any boy, yours or mine—the vacant lot, any lot in Torrance; the motorist, any car driver.

Who is at fault? Tommy? The improvised playground—or the motorist? That is a hard question. BUT THERE IS ONE

THING CERTAIN—and that is, that tragedies such as these CAN BE PREVENTED.

Must Have Play Areas
Establishment of three separate playgrounds, in addition to a Municipal Park, each bounded by a strong wire fence and supervised by trained recreation instructors, will keep all of our Torrance boys and girls off the streets and out of danger.

Take a ride about the city today. Just see the number of children of all ages who are playing in the streets and on unprotected vacant lots. You can't blame the youngsters—their own back yards are too confining for group games—where else can they play? At the school grounds? Only during school hours.

All of us value a child's life more than dollars—but that comparison is apt when the playgrounds and park are judged against a few cents' increase on the tax bill.

Highlights of Park Report

Here are some of the outstanding points contained in the Chamber of Commerce directors' statement concerning the Park-Playground proposition which will be found in the adjoining columns:

"This community (must decide) promptly the question of acquiring suitable land as close to the present population-center as possible which can serve adequately for the much needed municipal park."

"A community which lacks good, wholesome recreational facilities will also find... a greater proportion of social problems."

"Every major concern... which has studied the Torrance area as a site for possible relocation has offered constructive criticism that Torrance lacks proper recreational facilities and atmosphere."

"Many of our own citizens who are employed in the local plants show their hungry desire... to enjoy good sports when... they play on bare, vacant land plots here and there which afford no good opportunities for the expression of this clean ambition of fun."

"There is really no opportunity in Torrance for a picnic gathering, a band concert, or inter-industry sports, athletics or games."

"As an example of cost economy, the average resident home owner will not pay as much in one year as the cost of a swim in the Redondo plunge and a round trip fare to that community."

"Torrance industries fully appreciate that no one thing this community can do will afford as much contentment to employees as a well developed park and playgrounds."

BOND COST 90c YEAR

If you own a home worth \$4500 (assessed at \$1800), the Park and Playground bonds will only cost you 90c a year. Maintenance and care of parks will be paid out of Chamber of Commerce funds, according to City Engineer Leonard.

Many Opportunities For Recreation and Good Times at Park

Do you know the number of facilities offered for the enjoyment of the people in a modern park? Do you realize the wide range of out-of-door entertainment that could be developed from a recreational center such as you will vote on next Tuesday?

Here is a partial list of activities and points of wholesome, natural recreation that the proposed Torrance Municipal Park and children's playgrounds offers residents of Torrance, their guests and friends through the years to come:

- Sports
- Baseball, daytime and night games, indoor and outdoor diamonds.
- Tennis.
- Football.
- Track events.
- Field events.
- Horseshoes.
- Lawn bowling.
- Swimming.
- Handball.
- Family Entertainment

VITAL NECESSITY OF PROPER PLAY AREAS IS HELD URGENT

Creation of the Park-Playgrounds By Local Unemployed Declared Guarantee of Community's Future

CHAMBER REPORT IS COMPLETE SUMMARY OF ISSUE

Directors of Civic Organization Set Forth Authoritative Reasons Why Park-Playground Bonds Should Be Endorsed By Citizens on Tuesday

The following is the official statement of the Chamber of Commerce board of directors concerning the Park-Playground bond issue. This report was drafted by the representative citizens who constitute the directorate and adopted at their meeting June 1. It is presented here complete and for the first time.

The original plan for the lay-out and development of the townsite of Torrance followed carefully preconceived lines designed to furnish balanced proportions. Many of the original earmarks of this planning are still existent. This includes the triangular business district, the fan-shaped

Pres. Pontius Endorses Bonds

Los Angeles, June 5, 1931. Mr. Carl L. Hyde: I am highly pleased to learn that Torrance is planning the early construction of a major park and three neighborhood playgrounds; and I do not hesitate to add my endorsement of the proposed bond issue.

The vacation-camps which the Pacific Electric Railway has constructed is evidence of our company's keen interest in play areas, and I am glad to hear that you are soon to provide recreational facilities for the enjoyment of our employees and the other residents of Torrance.

I am advised by you and your associates that if this park is purchased at this time at such low prices the additional slight tax would be justified.

D. W. PONTIUS, Pres. Pacific Electric Railway

Band and orchestra concerts. Plays and pageants. Picnicking. Botanical garden. Natural walks and paths.

Group meetings. For Children Games of all kinds. Wading pools. Teeter-totters. Merry-go-rounds. Swings. Sand pits. Regular contests of many kinds. Athletics. Folk dancing. Plays and pageants. Swimming lessons.

These statements are made to point out the imperative necessity of this community deciding promptly the question of acquiring suitable land as close to the present population center of Torrance as possible.

(Continued on Page 4-A)