

## INDEPENDENT PARENTS' GROUP URGED TO CARE FOR SCHOOL PROBLEMS

Suggestion that the parents of children attending Torrance schools who desire that the control, administration and operation of the schools be transferred from the Los Angeles city school districts to a Torrance city school board or union district, form a new association of parents only was made this week by Mrs. Evelyn L. Carr, 1544 Marcelina ave.

The suggestion was contained in a letter to Grover C. Whyte, editor-publisher, Torrance Herald, Oscar Willett, chairman of the Junior College steering committee, and Harry B. Lewis, secretary of the committee.

Declaring that "it is obvious that we cannot fight through the Parent Teachers Association," Mrs. Carr said that "certainly the town is big enough to have its own schools," and in addition "better schools, better teachers, a junior college, a swimming pool and everything else the children of Torrance need." She declared that the people of the community must "fight" for independent schools and for a junior college, but that the only organization available for such a "fight" is "influenced by the Los Angeles system."

The complete letter is quoted suggesting that parents alone get into the fight without the influence of Los Angeles politics and form an association which can get in and drive to a successful conclusion the Torrance school problem.

Letter Quoted

"It appears to me as a parent who must send children to the Los Angeles schools located in Torrance that the only way to provide for the proper education of the young people of Torrance, the only way to get value received for the money we are spending on our schools, the only way for the people who pay the bill to have something to say about running the schools, is to get in and fight—to fight for independent city schools for Torrance and for a junior college. I know that there are hundreds of parents who think as I do.

"It is obvious that we cannot fight through the Parent Teachers Association. It is influenced by the Los Angeles system. Torrance has a \$27,000,000 assessed valuation. Certainly the town is big enough to have its own schools. We can have better schools, better teachers, a junior college, a swimming pool and everything else the children of Torrance need, and we can still do it for less than we are paying Los Angeles to run our schools. We can have better educational facilities and still cut the tax rate.

"Couldn't we organize a Torrance Parents Association?"

"Will your help be forthcoming to form this association to work this thing out—Torrance schools for Torrance children?"

"Respectfully and sincerely yours,

"MRS. EVELYN L. CARR,

"1544 Marcelina ave."

Local reaction to the idea indicated general agreement, with Lewis declaring that "I endorse the idea 100 percent. There should be no delay in organization."

Willett, who heads the Junior College steering committee which has been seeking to secure a junior college in the area west of the Los Angeles city shoeing strip, said that he is of the same opinion regarding the need for this area, but that the parents should "get in and work in the organizations" urging that persons sympathetic to independent Torrance schools become members of parent teachers associations already existing and carry the fight to them."

Mayor W. H. Tolson, also a supporter of the junior college plan and advocate of independent schools, said that "you can depend upon me for support of any organization to give

## TORRANCE, NARBONNE MEET TODAY

By MARVIN KENT

Time again for renewal of the Torrance high vs. Narbonne football grid rivalry.

In the past years the games on record have always been very hotly contested battles with a very close score. However, when the dust settles, it has usually been with Narbonne coming out on top.

Today is the day for another go.

Looking back on the two team grid records to date, we find the Tartars downed twice in close battles, while Narbonne defeated San Pedro 24 to 0 in their first battle, and rested with a bye the second week. So everything seems to point to Narbonne in the battle today, but, as long as old Torrance High school can field a team, the Torrance vs. Narbonne game will be hard fought.

This sportswriter will not even attempt to guess which team will come out the winner. They are very closely matched, and it will undoubtedly be the game of the year for Torrance. Come on all you alumni and supporters, see you at the game.

## 'Bee' Teams of Old-Time Rivals Meeting Today

By BUD SMITH

Today the Torrance High school "B" team travels to Narbonne high for a tussle with their "B" squad.

The game should be very close, for two reasons: One, the two squads are very evenly matched, and the Narbonne-Torrance rivalry is hot. The Narbonne squad has about the fastest backfield in the league, and a strong line. The Torrance boys have a very well rounded squad, the largest part of which is experienced.

The probable starters are Leroy Schwenk and Walt Hillier, ends; Joe Waters and Neal Silence, tackles; Ed Page and Shird Kelson, guards; Norm Baker, center; Gilbert Bennett, Ralph George, Bill Johnson and Bud Smith, backs.

The scores of each team's game with San Pedro shows a Tarbabe edge (Narbonne 6, Pedro 20, Torrance 0, Pedro 0), but the Narbonne game wasn't the snap the record shows.

The game will undoubtedly be hard fought and closely contested, and will be a very good game.

## Torrance Woman Is Held After Auto Accident

Shortly after Karl Steffe, 58, construction superintendent for a film studio, was killed in a two-car collision at the Imperial highway-Hoover st. intersection Thursday, the driver of the other automobile, Mrs. Ruth Fraser, 34, of 2860 Sepulveda blvd., Torrance, aircraft worker, was arrested on a charge of suspicion of manslaughter. Mrs. Steffe, riding with her husband, also was thrown out of the car with him, but received only minor injuries.

## Thanksgiving Day Will be November 23

Confusion regarding the Thanksgiving Day holiday—there being five Thursdays in November this year—this week was cleared by Gov. Earl Warren, who announced that he would issue a proclamation about Nov. 13 designating Nov. 23 as the official Thanksgiving in California.



WOMEN OF MOOSE ACTIVE IN WAR CHEST. . . Among the volunteer workers for the Annual War Chest drive in Torrance are the Women of the Moose, members of the organization being represented on various committees. Above are shown members of the order at the recent formal War Chest headquarters opening. Front row, left to right, Mmes. Laila P. Bowen, Lela Heglin, Lottie Phillips, Jeannette Clark, Ionia Steele, Ethel Fells, Golda Beight, Sarah Shaw and Mary Eggleston. Second row, at left, John Rudolph Bowen, and the Yugoslav orchestra of Los Angeles. Back row, left to right, Fred Fells, Kenneth C. Beight, Dr. Leo Athans, Ralph Shaw and other members of the Los Angeles orchestra.

## TORRANCE LAUNCHES DRIVE TO RAISE \$50,000 IN WAR CHEST FUNDS IN 10 DAYS; VOLUNTEERS WORKING IN FIELD

Torrance volunteers in the War Chest campaign are now making intensive efforts to raise the \$50,000 local quota in ten days time, the first report of their efforts to be made next Wednesday noon, Oct. 25, at a great rally of leaders in the patriotic and charitable cause in the Biltmore Bowl. At that time totals toward the goal of \$7,618,579.00 of the Los Angeles Area War Chest will be announced.

The appeal for "our boys, our homes and our Allies" began here yesterday morning following the enthusiastic rally of volunteers, meeting for their final instruction on Tuesday evening.

Richard S. McCune, vice president of Bank of America and chairman for cities associated in the campaign, was the honored guest speaker. Hillman Lee, Torrance chairman, presided.

Every citizen will be asked to make a donation to the War Chest, which has a united campaign once a year for 133 major organizations giving hundreds of essential services both on the home front and overseas. Among these organizations are U.S.O., War Prisoners Aid, United Seamen Service, Veterans Service Center for returning members of the armed forces, 17 great relief societies sending the necessities of life to Allies, where millions of men, women and children look to America for the means of preserving life; 95 Community Chest agencies which stand ready to give health, welfare and youth services as needed locally, among others.

Concurrent with the campaign in Torrance business and residential areas, the nearby war plants and industries now are having individual appeals within their gates. Through the agreement of labor and management, each employed person will be asked to dedicate a single day's pay for the War Chest agencies.

Among those which recently have conducted plant rallies are the 500 workers in Torrance Shell Chemical Company; Longren Aircraft, 168 employees; Ideco, 150 employees; National Supply Company, 3,000 workers; Goodyear Rubber Company, 450 workers, and Doak Aircraft, 750 workers. A generous spirit is being shown in all these plants, the War Chest representatives state.

Citizens' help in speeding up the campaign is asked and they are urged to make their War Chest contributions when first called upon, and save the unpaid solicitor, a resident of this city, the need for a return call. Pledges for contributions can be made and paid monthly or quarterly, if desired.

Volunteers will endeavor to personally contact every citizen and give him or her an opportunity to share in the great cause. Local headquarters will be open daily except Sunday at 1400 Cravens st., telephone Torrance 1040.

The campaign slogan, "You live . . . you can give," is a thoughtful reminder to all.

## Building Firm Buys Consolidated Property Here

W. K. Cuthbert Co., Los Angeles building material firm, has purchased the buildings and property of the Consolidated Lumber Company on 213th st., near Border ave., and will open a Torrance plant, it was announced yesterday.

The deal is in escrow, the property selling for \$6,500. The company's main office is at 165 So. La Brea, Los Angeles.

## U.S.O. CLUB IS HOST TO 1,154 MEN IN MONTH

Torrance USO club, at 1422

Engracia ave., the Woman's Club building, entertained a total of 1,154 service men and women during the month of September, according to a report of Marie H. Morgan, secretary, to C. Z. Ward, chairman of the Torrance USO committee, being forwarded to the regional USO offices.

Ward announced that Mrs. Lillian Milles, program chairman, is resigning because she is leaving the community, and that she will receive a USO 100-hour pin for the service that she has rendered to the local committee.

The various volunteer USO workers spent a total of 1,038 hours entertaining service men during the month of September. Volunteers numbered as follows: General committee, 45; program leaders and assistants, eight; senior hostesses, 208; junior hostesses, 191. The total is 252 patriotic Torrance citizens who engaged in making service men feel "at home" in Torrance, during the month, Ward said.

## Merchants Act On Problems of Local Interest

Members of the retail merchants division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce had a busy session at their luncheon meeting yesterday. They took the following action:

Agreed to contact all business firms and professional men with the request that they each contribute \$1 per week for 12 weeks, the funds to be used to underwrite a series of full page advertisements in the Torrance Herald in support of the War Chest, War Bond sales, and similar campaigns as well as promotion of Torrance as a desirable place to live and shop.

Agreed to sponsor a Halloween dance in the Civic Auditorium, the proceeds of which are to be donated to the Walteria Memorial for war heroes.

Recommended a "No" vote on Proposition 11 on the November ballot—the so-called "60¢ or 90¢."

Recommended a "Yes" vote on Proposition 4—exempting taxes on charitable institutions.

SKATING

A proposal that skating be conducted nightly in the Torrance Civic Auditorium will be before the City Council at its meeting on Tuesday night. The present floor would be used, it is said, and the question of whether it will stand up under skating is under consideration by the council.

## Torrance Sends 6,018 Christmas Parcels Overseas

Six thousand and eighteen packages for men and women serving overseas in the armed forces of the United States were mailed through the Torrance postoffice during the mailing period of Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, according to Postmaster C. Earl Conner.

In keeping with the great American habit of waiting until the last minute—to do Christmas shopping, to buy that birthday present or a token of love for the little woman on the wedding anniversary—1,083 of the packages were mailed the last day, Monday.

Postmaster Conner said that 30,090 pounds of Christmas presents went overseas in the big rush, and that the total may be more as it was difficult to keep an accurate count.

All employees of the postoffice, from clerks to stenographers and carriers, were drawn into the rush of handling the big bulk of mail.

But the main thing that warms the hearts of the patrons of Torrance postoffice is that the effort was in the best cause—to make sure that more than 6,000 of our fighting men, and women, out there where the very civilization of the world is being put to task, will be remembered on that day of days—the anniversary of the founding of Christianity, the birth of Jesus Christ.

## ROTARY WILL OBSERVE 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Twenty years ago, on Nov. 6, 1924, the Torrance Rotary Club was chartered as club number 1847 in the world-wide family of Rotary International. The twentieth anniversary of the Torrance club will be fittingly celebrated on Thursday, Nov. 9, with a dinner-dance at Potosi Verde Country Club.

In charge of the party are the three remaining charter members who are still active in the club: Charles V. Jones, Fay L. Parks and Sam Levy. Invitations have been sent to all former members of the local club and a number have already signified their intention of attending. James B. Hines, first president of the club, will be master of ceremonies. Arrangements are being made to entertain at least 200 members and guests according to the committee.

## Chamber Heads To Appear Before City Council

Torrance Chamber of Commerce directors and members met last night in the chamber headquarters and Executive Secretary Harry B. Lewis presented a lengthy progress report which will be submitted to the City Council next Tuesday.

Included in the report are items of general civic and industrial promotion which the council will be asked to consider.



W. B. HICKCOX . . . joins Torrance National Bank as assistant vice-president, specializing in escrows and credits.

## W. B. Hickcox Joins Torrance National Staff

Appointment of W. B. Hickcox to the position of assistant vice president specializing in escrows and credits of the Torrance National Bank is announced by James W. Post, president.

Bringing with him the experience of 27 years in the banking business, 25 years of which was with the Security-First National Bank's various branches in this section of Los Angeles county, Hickcox is well qualified to fill the post at the local bank.

Born in New York state, Hickcox attended high school at Lawrence, N.Y. He then majored in banking at Payne's Business college, after which he entered the Bank of Lawrence at Lawrence, N.Y.; remaining for two years. In 1920, he moved to California and joined the staff of the old Los Angeles Trust and Savings Bank now the Security-First National Bank, remaining with this institution for 25 years.

Hickcox is well known throughout the Southwest, having spent five years in Moneta and Gardena, two years in Wilmington, two years in Culver City and nine years in El Segundo as manager of the El Segundo bank. He is a graduate of the American Institute of Banking and a member of the Southwest Clearing House Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Hickcox have four children: a married son, Roy; a married daughter, Mrs. Hazel Meeker; W. Burtis, Jr., who is a corporal in an Army bombing squadron; and Lawrence, 11. The Hickcox attend the Florence Presbyterian church, and are looking for a home in Torrance.

## Army Hospital Picking Most Popular Girl

Torrance Army hospital's most popular girl will be chosen by the patients and hospital personnel during the next two weeks, the winner to preside as hostess on Nov. 15 when the first anniversary of the hospital will be observed.

Two hundreds girls at the hospital, army nurses, Wacs and civilian personnel, will be in on the contest, results of which will be disclosed on Friday, Nov. 3.

## PRESENT BUSES GOOD FOR MANY MONTHS SERVICE, C. Z. WARD DECLARES

Present equipment is sufficient to handle the traffic of Torrance Municipal Bus lines for the next six months or longer, until new rolling stock can be obtained, C. Z. Ward, manager of the bus department, declared yesterday in predicting the cancellation of the Crown Body and Coach Works order for six 45-passenger vehicles.

Stating that Crown probably would not be able to meet the Dec. 15 deadline set by the Torrance City Council for delivery of the new buses ordered last July for \$11,000 each, Ward, who has the backing of three members of the council but only one member of the transportation committee, declared that he had formulated a plan by which the six old buses being used at present can be kept in condition until new equipment, preferably Whites, can be obtained.

"Since we are frozen to 16 round trips daily to Los Angeles for the time being, we can get by with the present equipment for six or eight months," Ward said.

Wants Mechanics

He suggested that two night mechanics be hired for the city bus department garage to keep the buses in order, and that a replacement motor be bought for the Ford buses so that they could be changed from time to time as they need repair. Ward also suggested that the garage be properly equipped with tools for general mechanical work on the equipment. Structurally, the buses are in good shape, with good tires, according to Ward.

Two buses would be able to maintain the 16-trip Los Angeles run, he said, with two double-heading. The fifth bus would operate the proposed Lomita-Walteria-Harbor City local run and the sixth would be held in reserve against breakdown.

Councilmen C. M. Gilbert, N. H. Cucci and G. V. Powell have been working with Ward on operation of the bus department. Powell is on the council's transportation committee. The other members are Mayor W. H. Tolson and Councilman J. E. Hitchcock.

An agreement has been reached with Gardena City Council calling for running of Torrance-Los Angeles buses to Gardena on Vermont ave. and allowing Gardena buses to run to Torrance on Western ave. When this plan goes into effect, the Torrance Western ave. 190th st. loop would be discontinued and the Los Angeles bus would make the Greenwood ave. loop. A local bus would run to Lomita and Walteria and perhaps to Harbor City.

Officials of the Office of Defense Transportation last week told local officials that no authority for additional schedules had been received, and that the present schedule of 16 trips daily to Los Angeles is all that can be maintained. The ODT granted Torrance the right to maintain the Greenwood loop, however.

The whole bus matter is due for an airing before the City Council at a meeting soon. Mayor Tolson and Councilman Hitchcock have maintained a stolid silence regarding the whole situation since Gilbert, Cucci and Powell took control of the situation by ousting Charles F. Koors as transportation engineer.

In his \$300 a month assignment, Koors was planning to utilize the present and new equipment in operation of new lines between Torrance and Long Beach, Wilmington, Redondo Beach and improved service to Los Angeles. He also was working out other improvements in the service.

## Torrance High Science Building Open to Classes

Torrance High school's science building was reopened this Monday.

It was severely damaged in the autumn of 1941 by the earthquake. The building could have been put into immediate use by a few minor repairs, but because of the weakened condition of the walls, it was condemned.

The main item concerned with the repairing of the building was reinforcing the walls. Also several improvements were made. The ceilings are now soundproof and the acoustics are improved.

The hall lockers are flush with the walls. The home economics classes have an individual locker for each girl. The exhibition luncheon for the foods classes has been enlarged.

## KOORS OFFERS \$14,000 FOR BUS SYSTEM

The City of Torrance has been offered \$14,000 for its bus line, it was revealed this week.

The offer came from Charles F. Koors, former transportation engineer for the city, who is representing interests in the transportation field.

It will be given open consideration at a City Council meeting next Tuesday night, although the offer was made at a conference of the five members of the council Monday.

There is little likelihood that the line will be sold for that figure, city officials said, as the transportation trio handling the bus line affairs, Councilmen C. M. Gilbert, N. H. Cucci and G. V. Powell, are reported to be opposed to the sale.

The City of Torrance has about \$52,000 invested in the line, including capital outlay and losses over several years of operation. The line last year turned in a profit of \$12,000 before depreciation of about half that figure, the first year it paid its way and made money for the city.

The six buses of the city are said to be worth far more than the \$14,000, officials declared.

## TICKET SALES FOR BENEFIT SHOW HEAVY

With the eighth annual Police and Fireman's Vaudeville Shows scheduled for Friday evening, Oct. 20, at the High School auditorium, the advanced seat sale and the interest in the ten especially selected all professional acts indicates that this will be most successful, both from an entertainment as well as a financial standpoint. Sgt. Bill Evans, program chairman, said today.

Much interest has been aroused by the announcement of the novel door prize, a real live porker, to be given to the holder of the lucky number to be drawn during the second performance. An optional prize of a \$25 war bond will be given in the event the winner is allergic or averse to the society of said porker, which, according to the donor, Ed Saul, of a local nursery, is of amiable disposition and exemplary habits.

Members of the association are planning a barbecue, in the event the winner should elect to "take the war bond instead of the pork."

With George West, well known on stage and screen, as master of ceremonies, the show features such headliners as Capt. Jones & Co. comedy masters; Davey Jamieson, in dances of yesteryear; Grey and Diane, sensational hand-balancers; the Three Kitchenettes, miraculous performers on unicycles; the Black Bros., in culver knockabouts; the Martell Twins; Betty Jo Huston, in entertaining specialties, and Jack Aronson, for many years with the inimitable Ted Lewis as purveyor of music for the incidental acts, at the piano.

Two performances will be given, the first show getting under way at 7 o'clock and the second at 9:30 p.m.

## SECOND STAR IS AWARDED TO NATIONAL

A second star has been added to the Army and Navy "E" flag at the National Supply Company's Torrance plant. This makes the third time that workers have been honored with the coveted production award.

In a letter of notification addressed to the men and women of National Supply, Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson complimented employees of the local war plant for their high achievement in the production of war materials, stating they had set an inspiring example for others in the cause of democracy and humanity.