

# BEACH CITIES, LOMITA MAY AGAIN TRY FORMATION OF MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Beach cities which voted overwhelmingly in favor of the proposed West Basin Municipal Water District, defeated on the over-all vote at the polls Tuesday, probably will attempt to form a separate water district and tie up with the Metropolitan Water District, it was reported yesterday.

Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, El Segundo and Palos Verdes Estates voted by nearly four to one in favor of the proposed district, while the balance of the communities involved, Dominguez, Gardena, Hawthorne, Inglewood, Lomita and others, voted the proposal down by more than two to one.

Since the overall vote, 8,941 "yes" and 11,364 "no" prevails, the entire district plan/lost. It is reported that the beach cities, and perhaps Lomita, will attempt to form a separate district, providing the Metropolitan Water District directors will accept the smaller area involved. If they do, petitions again will be circulated asking the Board of Supervisors to call a new election.

The vote in the beach cities was 5,903 in favor of the district and 1,461 against. The vote in the other communities was 3,038 for the district and 9,903 against.

Ben Haggott, president of the West Basin Water Association, declared that the election Tuesday solved nothing.

"The water shortage still exists," he declared, "it is necessary to import water to meet our every day needs. In fact, the problem is greater now because a few days have passed, time has been lost, and the situation grows worse daily. This water shortage problem must be solved, and it must be solved soon."

Haggott is himself in the water business, being president of the Palos Verdes Water Company and one of the petitioners in the Superior court suit to adjudicate ground water rights in the entire West Basin area. Under the terms of the lawsuit, the State Division of Water Resources has been named referee to determine the safe yield of water wells. When this has been done, production will be allowed in areas involved which will be required to import water.

What the districts which voted "no" on the proposal to form a water district will do in face of this fact was a question which remained unanswered yesterday. The great opposition to the formation of the West Basin Municipal Water District was inspired by private water companies, for the most part, who claimed they have "plenty of water." These same companies are defendants in the water rights adjudication lawsuit and they may be required to cut their production materially.

Meanwhile the beach cities, where many water wells already have sat idle due to the lowering water levels caused by overproduction, plan to proceed with their efforts and an announcement within a few days as to the next step was anticipated.

Torrance was not involved in the election since it already has three municipal water districts and is a member of the Metropolitan Water District. Torrance uses Metropolitan water as a standby, but the two new districts, No. 1 in Southwest Torrance and WALTERIA, and No. 2 in North Torrance, probably will use Metropolitan supply exclusively.

The vote by cities on the formation of the West Basin Municipal Water District was:

City	Yes	No
Dominguez	21	590
Gardena	201	798
Hawthorne	100	1063
El Segundo	1056	311
Hermosa Beach	1343	311
Inglewood	1620	4899
Lomita	384	505
Manhattan Beach	1440	258
Palos Verdes	239	744
Redondo Beach	1825	785
Howard	83	407
Keystone	5	81
La Brea	65	66
Lawndale	127	469
Moneta	65	930
Wiseburn	322	930

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## J. E. Hitchcock Suffers Severe Back Injury

James E. Hitchcock, shop foreman at the Fellows, California C.C.M.O. lease, is receiving treatment in Santa Fe hospital, Los Angeles, for a severe back injury, which he suffered while at work this week. Hitchcock, former city councilman, arrived in an ambulance Tuesday. Mrs. Hitchcock is visiting at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Dudley, 1507 Greenwood.

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## COUNTY OFFICE TO SCREEN CANDIDATES FOR TORRANCE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENCY

When Torrance Board of Education takes office immediately following its election on March 18, the members will have before them a list of qualified educators and administrators from which to pick the first superintendent of schools of Torrance, prepared for the board by the office of the County Superintendent of Schools.

At a meeting with members of the Torrance Charter Committee on Friday, Dr. C. C. Carpenter, assistant county superintendent, discussed the pre-organization plans for the Torrance City School district, and he was asked at that time to seek applicants for the position of superintendent of Torrance schools and to screen them down to a list of six from which to select the one educator who will guide the affairs of the local schools for the first four years. The law requires that the superintendent be employed on a four-year contract, removable only for cause.

James L. Taylor, vice chairman of the Charter committee, and others at the meeting already his office has had many inquiries from superintendents of other districts who are interested in the Torrance position. Since the Torrance office will be a new position, special attention will be paid to those who have outstanding organization ability as well as good records in curriculum formation and supervising the teaching of both elementary and high school courses of study.

It was suggested by Dr. Carpenter that the superintendent should be hired at once that he may work with the Board of Education and the County Superintendent's office in securing teachers for the four Torrance elementary schools. It will be necessary to work without salary until July 1. Dr. Carpenter pointed out, but the Board of Education will be permitted to allow the superintendent pay during the first few months of his contract to make up for the partial month of March and all of April, May and June.

In addition to securing four principals and as many teachers as are necessary by May 10, the Board of Education must have its budget prepared by June 1.

Many applications for teacher positions in the Torrance city schools already are on file, and more have been referred in the County Superintendent's office. It was said.

A conference with the Los Angeles Board of Education is being arranged in the near future to discuss the handling of school children from the Los Angeles shoeing strip area in the Torrance schools, as well as handling the physically handicapped children attending the development at Torrance elementary school.

With reference to the screening of candidates for the Torrance school superintendent's position, Dr. Carpenter pointed out that this task had been performed last year for the Redondo Union high school district, where the position changed hands for the first time in some 20 years. W. E. Cobb is superintendent of the Redondo district.

## Weather Record

Official U. S. Weather Bureau	Maximum	Minimum
Jan. 1	72	38
2	73	38
3	75	38
4	75	42
5	75	41
6	75	41
7	75	41
8	75	41
9	75	41
10	75	41
11	75	41
12	75	41
13	75	41
14	75	41



MOBILE CHEST X-RAY UNIT HERE . . . Coming to Torrance for a nine-day stay, the Los Angeles County Tuberculosis and Health Association mobile X-ray unit arrived in Torrance Monday for a stay through next Tuesday, Jan. 21. Free X-rays of the chest to detect possible tuberculosis or pneumonia are given in a few minutes time. One of the first to line up was Councilman W. H. Tolson, shown above with Alfred Priddis, X-ray technician, and several other local men awaiting their turn for the free test.

## Advantages Of Joining Redondo Union High School District Told

Distinct advantage to the students and the people of Torrance of affiliating with Redondo Union High School district for secondary school purposes, rather than with Los Angeles City High School district, a question to be decided by the voters on Jan. 24, were pointed out this week by Dr. Howard A. Wood, chairman of the Torrance Charter Committee. They are:

1. Since Torrance voters on August 20, at the time they adopted the City Charter now in effect, acted in favor of withdrawal from the Los Angeles City School system, they should make the break complete at this time by affiliating with Redondo Union High school district for secondary education rather than staying under control of Los Angeles High School district for another year.
2. Redondo Union High School district trustees have met with Torrance committees at several times and have indicated their desire to cooperate by handling the Torrance high school students, in Torrance High School building, and to cooperate with Torrance in setting up its own high school when the Torrance Unified School District is formed late this year. This offer of cooperation by a neighboring school district, whose members are ready and available for advice and assistance, will prove valuable to the Torrance Board of Education which will be elected March 18. Whereas, Torrance never sees members of the Los Angeles Board of Education, the Redondo Board of Trustees are "part of the community" operating.

By voting to join Redondo Union High School district for secondary education of its children, Torrance City school district will become a part of El Camino College district, something the people of Torrance have desired for their children for many years. A local junior college. Already the California Assembly has adopted a bill to permit use of 73 acres of Alondra park, adjoining Torrance, as a site for El Camino college. Where Torrance for years have been paying nearly \$50,000 a year to Los Angeles for junior college purposes, the children this city have not had access to a college, since it is located on North Vermont ave. Classes of El Camino college already are being conducted in the Redondo Union High school building, and many Torrance students are attending there. Classes also are being conducted at Inglewood Union high and El Segundo high. The assessed valuation of the district will make Torrance included will be nearly \$130,000,000. This will permit the college district the richest in California and will permit building a college and campus second to none right in Alondra park, bordering the Torrance city limits at Redondo Beach park, bordering the Torrance city limits at Redondo Beach park. Torrance students need this college, they are entitled to the best, and the only way to become a part of the college district is to vote to join Redondo Union High School district. It is reported, unless Torrance joins the college district, it will not be constructed in Alondra park, but rather in an area in the center of the area from Redondo Beach to Inglewood.

Torrance High School students will continue to attend classes in Torrance High School buildings, but under the far superior educational advantages offered by Redondo Union High School district. Redondo rates as one of the finest high schools of California, with students graduating fully prepared to face the trials of life or to immediately enter institutions of higher education. The school has been cited many times for its excellent curriculum and for the preparedness of its graduates for entry into universities and colleges throughout the nation. They have suffered very little of the need for additional college preparation experienced by many Torrance children.

A great section of Torrance already is in the Redondo Union High School district (Perry elementary district) with an assessed valuation of \$4,000,000, and its residents strongly favor the Redondo Union High School system.

Credits of the high school students who are approaching graduation (juniors) will stand, and every additional advantage to better these students for their diplomas will be available. Present seniors (class of S'47), will be graduated by the Los Angeles High School district. The Redondo Union High School district will take over in September, 1947, but the credits of the members of the senior class (W'48 and S'48) will be protected. The value of the diploma which these students will receive will be greatly enhanced by its issuance by Torrance High School as a part of the Redondo union district.

Torrance High School will become a part of the California Interscholastic Federation, and this membership will start with affiliation with Redondo Union High school. Thus, the athletes, debaters and others who distinguish themselves in scholastic and athletic activities will have the opportunity to compete for greater honors than offered by Los Angeles. The complete Los Angeles district does not permit its championship teams to compete outside the Los Angeles Leagues (with but few exceptions). As a member of the C. I. F., Torrance High School athletes will be able to compete with other C. I. F. league champion teams for state championships.

## Culver City Wants To Know What 'Makes Torrance Tick,' Says Article

Culver City, following the action of Torrance in adopting a charter in order to get control of its schools from Los Angeles, wants to know what makes "Torrance tick," according to an article in the "Town Hall" column of the Culver City citizen, dated Jan. 10.

"Some day when time permits," the article reads, "we're going to try to find out exactly what it is that makes Torrance tick. We have some pretty definite ideas, but they are largely theory. And we should like to get the facts." Citing the growth of Torrance, the article reads: "When the rapid growth of Southland communities is tabulated Torrance is high in the list; when the settling and organization of new, big industries are mapped, Torrance is invariably mentioned; when progressive moves in government are considered, the chances are that Torrance is already trying them; when those moves don't pan out, Torrance is the first to settle them; and when community enthusiasm is sought, we are told that Torrance is the place to find it.

"Torrance, in the middle of a field, wanted industry and growth; and they came. It wanted lively, vibrant, progressive government, and it got such government. It wanted its own school system; and it took the bit in its teeth and got its own school system. It found out it didn't like some ordinances, such as one regarding parking and it wiped those ordinances. The point is that Torrance finds out what it wants, and then gets it. "Doubtless there are many factors contributing to the success of community spirit. Ours is here in Culver City. But we are led to suspect that there are other factors we don't have here. And, when time permits, we're going to try to find out what they are—rather verify the ideas we have already. It should be worthwhile information."

## AMERICAN-STANDARD TAKES OUT \$1,500,000 BUILDING PERMIT FOR FIRST UNIT

American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp. yesterday secured its building permit for the first unit of its giant Torrance pottery on Crenshaw blvd. and 204th st. The permit was for \$1,500,000.

The manufacturing building, known as a pottery plant for which the permit was just taken out, will cover an area of 400 feet by 1300 feet. Additional structures will be constructed later to make the total project amount to approximately \$2,500,000.

The U. S. Maritime Commission has almost completed removal of surplus property from the site of the new factory, which will have a payroll initially in excess of 600 persons. The 47-acre site was purchased from the Pacific Electric Railway in a transaction handled through William H. Bratton, local P. E. agent, and the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

The new pottery will manufacture vitreous china plumbing fixtures and will greatly increase production facilities of American-Standard, already the world's largest manufacturer of vitreous china plumbing fixtures. The corporation at present has four large potteries, one at Richmond, California, and others at Kokomo, Indiana; Tiffin, Ohio, and Trenton, New Jersey, as well as many other plants engaged in the manufacture of enameled cast iron plumbing fixtures, brass fittings, boilers, radiators, warm air furnaces, water heaters, and water heaters.

The Torrance plant will incorporate the most modern features of factory design, and will be equipped throughout with the latest and most efficient equipment for the production of vitreous china plumbing fixtures.

## Sewer District Protest Meetings May Be March 4

Protest meetings probably will be conducted in the City Hall on March 4 on the formation of the two new sewer districts in Torrance; one in WALTERIA and the other in South Torrance.

City Engineer G. M. Jain informed the City Council Tuesday night that final reports will be filed as of Jan. 28, and the hearings are required within 30 days.

He said that the estimates in WALTERIA indicate that the cost of the project will be approximately \$270,000, serving 850 lots. South Torrance estimates are \$338,000, serving 550 lots. On a per front foot basis, the cost will approximate \$3.40 or \$170 for a 50-foot lot.

Jain urged immediate action on the program so that the engineering work can be completed in time to complete construction during the summer months. He said engineering fees will run about \$20,000.

State of California matching funds will be used to defray engineering costs, it was said. Harold A. Barnett is consulting engineer on the project.

## Cabrillo Avenue Opening Before City Council

Opening of Cabrillo avenue south of Sepulveda blvd. in connection with Eschelman ave., will be discussed at a conference Monday between the City Council and J. E. Kettler, representing the Kettler estate.

Kettler has agreed to deed the necessary rights-of-way through his property for an 80-foot street, and the Council previously had agreed to provide for improving the thoroughfare.

The conference Monday will be to reach an agreement to proceed with the work in the near future, it was said, because Kettler is preparing to launch his subdivision and home building program on the tract.

Opening of Cabrillo southward long has been a desire, and necessary improvement. Councilman W. H. Tolson pointed out during the meeting of the Council Tuesday night.

## City Will Ban Left Turns In Business Area

Left turns will be banned at several central business district intersections to help control the mounting traffic, as a result of action of the City Council Tuesday night.

Chief of Police John H. Stroth requested permission of the Council to install "no left turn" signs at El Prado and Sartori ave., Marcellina ave. and Cabrillo ave., and Marcellina and Sartori avenues. Also, he asked for a resolution to permit enforcement of the left turn ban.

Both his requests were granted. Chief Stroth said that the move had the endorsement of business men in the central district.