



**TORRANCE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS** . . . Appointed principals of two important Torrance elementary schools are A. R. Beardsley, left, who will be in charge of Torrance Elementary school, and A. N. Foster, right, who will direct Fern Avenue school. Both administrators have had wide experience in education circles according to records of the Torrance City Board of Education.

## A Newspaper Takes a Bow

It isn't often that a newspaper swells its chest and takes a bow for civic accomplishment, but it seems merited this week for the Torrance Herald to call the attention of its readers to what in newspaper language is termed "alert reporting"—and reporting which has led to the saving to taxpayers of this district of perhaps \$500,000 this week.

It was in the midst of the school withdrawal campaign, itself sponsored by this newspaper, that it became evident that Los Angeles was intent upon "stripping" the Torrance schools of everything movable, even buildings.

Alert to this, every move on the part of Los Angeles was watched by the Herald with intent interest and the torch hardly had been applied to the wire fence posts at Torrance Elementary School in preparation for removal of the bungalows there before the Herald was on the job to stop the removal of those buildings.

Enlisting the aid of such citizens as James L. Lynch and Fay L. Parks, the financial assistance of the City Council was asked to hire counsel to restrain Los Angeles from taking Torrance school property away from the Torrance taxpayers.

The Herald contacted an attorney experienced in school cases, S. V. O. Pritchard, and arrived at a fee for handling such a restraining action.

They failed to convince the City Council that it legally could finance this action.

City Judge John A. Shidler came to the Herald and said that he would file the case as his own attorney and as a taxpayer. This he did. But he failed to get a temporary restraining order.

Realizing the danger of losing some \$110,000 worth of bungalows, \$50,000 worth of real estate and other equipment valued at \$100,000, the Herald then turned to public subscriptions and enlisted the aid of Fay Parks. A fund was raised among local business and professional men and Pritchard was hired.

Pritchard went to work, got the temporary restraining order, and immediately upon the election of the Board of Education, the school district joined in the suit.

The result now is final. Los Angeles cannot remove bungalows, sell real estate in Torrance nor remove equipment secured within buildings. And the two bungalows moved away must be returned.

Yes, the Herald feels as though it should take a bow, while congratulating Judge Shidler, Pritchard, the Board of Education and the citizens who sponsored the fund raising drive to initiate the action.

In another case, the Herald spearheaded a movement which eliminated the need for El Camino Junior College board to purchase for nearly \$200,000 75 acres of land for the college. The deal was ready to be made because the Board of Supervisors, with the support of Gardena gambling interests, pleased a \$3,000 per acre price on the Alondra Park site.

Appealing to members of the Junior College board of trustees, the Herald offered to organize all the newspapers and civic leaders in the Junior College district to appear before the supervisors and appeal for consideration of the taxpayers' interest.

Winning the nod, the trustees delayed their land purchase deal, and the Herald went to work.

The price last week was lowered to a figure between \$500 and \$1,500; this week the supervisors decided to make a "gift" of the land.

Yes, we take a bow.

## Supervisors Approve Plan For Gift Of Alondra Park Land For College

A proposal by Supervisor Leonard J. Roach that part of the 75 acres in Alondra Park be transferred without cost to the El Camino Junior College District, Tuesday was approved by the Board of Supervisors.

In return for this gift of land for academic buildings, the county retains acreage where recreational facilities would be established.

The "gift" of land is a come-down from a \$3000-per-acre price put on the land at the insistence of gambling-representative Gardena interests, but it was the intention that the land be made a gift when the California Legislature adopted unanimously the enabling act to allow transfer of the park land for educational purposes.

At the time the \$3000 price was offered, the Junior College board started negotiations to buy land at Aviation Blvd. and Center St. at \$2500 an acre for the college.

This brought a wave of protests, spearheaded by Torrance leaders, and the purchase was abandoned in favor of further efforts to get the supervisors to cut the land price to a reasonable figure or "give" the land to the district.

A committee of county officials and college district representatives was appointed to decide how much of the land should be used for recreational purposes and how much for scholastic buildings.

Roach said the recreational facilities should be available to the public and that a plan of

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## Los Angeles Enjoined From Removing School Property; Real Estate Sales Stopped

There will be no appeal on the part of the Los Angeles City Board of Education from the Superior court decision on Tuesday permanently enjoining Los Angeles from removing bungalows from Torrance school property, selling real estate here and ordering the Los Angeles district to return the two bungalows moved Feb. 5 to Gardena.

So the Torrance Herald was informed yesterday by Attorney S. V. O. Pritchard after consultation with representatives of the County Counsel's office.

Upwards of \$250,000 worth of property was preserved for the people of Torrance School district Tuesday when Superior Judge W. Turney Fox enjoined the Los Angeles board from removing or selling school buildings and equipment in Torrance.

A similar decision was rendered in the Culver City case which was filed shortly after a group of local businessmen hired Pritchard to protect the taxpayers' interests of Torrance by filing the restraining action.

The Los Angeles district had announced that it was planning to move eleven bungalows, valued at upwards of \$110,000. In the case of Walteria, this might have left the area without a school, since all classes there are being conducted in bungalows.

Also, Los Angeles had advertised for bids on the 15-acre farm site on Redondo Beach Blvd., east of Grenshaw Blvd., in Torrance, valued at some \$40,000, and already had entered into a deal with the city of

Testifying Tuesday at the trial were Superintendent of Schools J. H. Hull, representing Torrance, and Dr. Frank Evans, of the Los Angeles school office. Other witnesses had been summoned but they were not needed.

Hull testified that Torrance (Continued on Page 5-A)

## THOMAS LOSES THIRD ROUND OF BILL TO WITHDRAW SAN PEDRO FROM LOS ANGELES

Assemblyman Vincent Thomas lost the third round of his fight to pass legislation to permit San Pedro to withdraw from the City of Los Angeles.

At the Monday session of the Assembly he won 42 "aye" votes on his bill, a sufficient majority. He had secured amendments to limit the bill to Los Angeles and San Pedro, respectively, the bill would have applied to any section of any city, and it garnered only 29 votes of the needed 41.

Yesterday, the Assembly reversed itself and voted 53 to 13 to reconsider the bill, but at the same time approved unanimously the introduction of a resolution regarding Los Angeles failing to carry through its promises to San Pedro made when the harbor area was annexed in 1909.

Thomas said that he will hold his bill on file before the assembly until "we can determine what action Los Angeles officials take on the harbor problems."

He accused Bowron of "using trick and device" in opposing the bill and questioned if Bowron was "guilty of legislative interference."

The original bill provided any district of any city could vote on its own to withdraw from the parent city. As amended, it was applicable only to Los Angeles and its various annexed suburbs.

Such cities as Torrance and other municipalities outside of Los Angeles would not have been involved under provisions of the bill.

Six Los Angeles assemblymen voted in favor of the "knife Los Angeles" bill, which was inspired by the failure of Los Angeles to keep its promises to San Pedro made at the time the port city annexed to Los Angeles many years ago.

Passage in the cow-county dominated Senate was conceded, but there is speculation as to Governor Warren's attitude on the bill.

Mayor Bowron of Los Angeles had said the bill was inspired by radical union labor elements seeking to get control of the harbor. "If the C.I.O. could dominate this harbor, this wouldn't have happened," he said. Assemblyman Thomas always has won solid union labor support but his policies are on the conservative side, his friends here pointed out.

The same reasons that motivated withdrawal of Torrance schools from the Los Angeles City School System are behind the bill, Thomas said. The city of Los Angeles has neglected the harbor district and has failed to provide adequate services, buildings and harbor facilities.

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## Nineteen THS Teachers Picked, Cobb Announces

Nineteen teachers have been employed for Torrance high school next year and their names were released to the Torrance Herald yesterday by W. K. Cobb, superintendent of Redondo Union High School district, of which Torrance becomes a part starting July 1.

The teachers selected and assigned to Torrance are:

Principal, W. Waller; Vice principal, Arthur W. Mail;

Dean of Girls, Mrs. Bess Valentine; Miss Mozelle Marshall, Miss Mavel P. Kloster; Science, Clem E. Saunders; Social Science, Herbert W. Irwin, Mrs. Adelia S. Dwight; Homemaking, Mrs. Mae Buchanan;

Language, Miss Marian H. Thompson; Shop, James R. Brucker, C. E. McMoran;

Agriculture, Fred L. Eckert; Art, Miss Elaine Crowe; Girls' physical education, Miss June Cope, Miss Doris May Avis;

Business Education, Miss Carolyn Kyes, Miss Frances M. Lawrence;

Attendance and Continuation, Albert Applegate.

Principal Waller, Mrs. Wight, Mrs. Buchanan, McMoran, Miss Kyes and Applegate all are now in the Redondo high school system. All others are newly hired, Cobb said.

"We are doing our best to get teachers of high educational standards for Torrance high school," Superintendent Cobb stated.

He said that he anticipates an enrollment of slightly less than 600 in the four grades of the high school. This will require between 25 and 30 teachers, he said.

Cobb declared that all seniors now attending Torrance high school from outside of Torrance will be permitted to continue to attend the high school here, if they so desire.

Such an arrangement has been made with Los Angeles City high school district, he declared.

Custodial and maintenance help is being hired and Cobb suggested that any Torrance persons interested in such work, or clerical positions, call or write for an appointment at his office in Redondo high school, telephone Redondo 3727.

## CIO Denies Bowron Charge; Raps Los Angeles

The Los Angeles C.I.O. Council yesterday issued the following statement regarding San Pedro's attempt to withdraw from Los Angeles.

Mayor Bowron's hysterical charge that CIO unions are "at the bottom of the attempt to secede" is not only untrue, it is an attempt by the Mayor to hide the shocking misfeasance and incompetence of his harbor commission.

The CIO has not been a part of the secessionist move nor has it taken any position on the issue. However, the CIO for many years has been fighting for a modern, efficiently operated Los Angeles harbor. One third of CIO's members in Los Angeles gain their livelihoods through harbor facilities.

Under the Bowron administration, many of the harbor's facilities have become dilapidated and dangerous, reducing Los Angeles to a second-rate port and threatening this community with a serious loss of shipping and foreign commerce.

The CIO, along with the A.F. of L., the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, San Pedro Business Men's Association, the Twenty-Third club and other business and civic groups, has made many proposals to Mayor Bowron for improvement and modernization of the harbor.

One proposal was for adequate docking facilities for the world's largest and most costly fishing fleet. Millions of dollars in fishing boats, on which thousands of CIO and A.F. of L. jobs depend, are now crowded into an inadequate, bottlenecked slip, alongside an old wooden dock that is literally falling into the water and has been characterized as a fire menace many times.

The recent devastation of the waterfront at Texas City would be insignificant compared to the catastrophe that could occur any day if San Pedro's tinder box—its fish harbor—caught fire. Unless improved facilities are provided.

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**MISS TORRANCE OF 1947** . . . Take your pick from these Torrance beauties and then cast your ballots for "Miss Torrance of 1947." Your money, not only will go to the election of the Queen, but will aid the Y.W.C.A. building fund. At left is Carlotta Dean, American Legion candidate; center, Miss Bettie West, Lions Club, and Miss Pat Ream, Rotary Club. Other candidates are entering this week, members of the Junior Women's Club, sponsors, announced. (All photos by Ray Studio.)

## Carlotta Dean Leads Drive For 'Miss Torrance'

Carlotta Dean, the cute little brunette entry of the American Legion, jumped to first place from third this week in the "Miss Torrance of 1947" queen contest with 7458 votes.

Next is Bettie West, petite entry of the Lions club.

In third place is Pat Ream, sponsored by Rotary club and in fourth place the 20-30 club entry, Miss Rosalie Fortin.

This setup, you can rest assured, will not last long because pretty little Miss Fortin, the 18-year-old blonde whose pleasing personality greets you at the register of McCowan's drug store, is just getting started and as of this date had no chance to show what she can really do.

The V.F.W. Auxiliary and the Women of the Moose up to this date have not completed selection of their entry.

Which one of these girls do you think looks like Miss Torrance of 1947?

You can vote, you know! For each dime you give you get ten votes. This money goes to the Y.W.C.A. building fund set up by the Torrance Junior Women's club. Give your name, your address and the contestants for whom you wish to vote. If your votes are 100 or more your receipt will be mailed to you.

Any monies mailed in must be postmarked not later than May 31 to give credit to contestants.

Mail all donations to Junior Women's Club Y.W.C.A. Building Fund, Torrance Welfare Center, 1359 Post ave., Torrance, Calif.

## HAROLD McCABE TO BE ROTARY SPEAKER TONIGHT

Harold McCabe, former district attorney for Orange County, and Rotarian of the Santa Ana club, will be guest at the Rotary club tonight.

It is reported that he will discuss the Overell murder trial which comes up May 26, and will answer questions as to why the attorney general stepped into the case and the dissension among the local law enforcement agencies.

## SEWER PROJECT

City Engineer Lloyd Aldrich, of Los Angeles, has recommended to the City Council permission be given County Sanitation District No. 3 to construct an outfall sewer in Lomita boulevard between Lakme avenue and Avalon boulevard.

## REPAIR FIRE STATION

Workers are busy remodeling the central station of Torrance Fire department, under the direction of Sam Levy, as technical advisor at \$1.00 a month. Levy said that the station can be repaired and put in condition safe to house equipment and personnel for \$2,500 to \$3,000, after voters twice voted down bonds for a new fire station. The City Council took him up on his offer and the rehabilitation of emergency nature, proceeds. (Torrance Herald photo.)

## SCHOOL BOARD ASKS SPECIAL ELECTION TO RAISE FUNDS NEEDED FOR FIRST YEAR

Torrance City Board of Education voted Tuesday night to ask the office of the County Superintendent of Schools to call a special election on July 11 on the question of temporarily raising the minimum elementary school tax rate from 90c per \$100 to \$1.40 cents.

By this means, it was pointed out by Dr. Howard A. Wood, president of the Board of Education, some \$150,000 will be raised to adequately finance the schools during the first year when Torrance will receive no state school support. The state funds, based on average daily attendance, will go to Los Angeles for another year.

The decision to ask the people to grant the additional 50 cents per \$100 temporarily came shortly after Superintendent of Schools J. H. Hull had announced the saving of approximately that amount by permanently restraining Los Angeles City Schools from moving some 11 bungalows from Torrance grounds, valued at \$100,000 each, and restraining the L. A. system from selling real estate valued at \$40,000.

In addition, it was pointed out, Torrance saved approximately \$1,500,000 in withdrawing from Los Angeles and thus eliminating its obligations under the \$75,000,000 bond issue voted by Los Angeles last summer.

Hull told the board that it is estimated the Torrance schools will have 2,020 students in elementary classes, kindergarten through eighth.

He said that a school population check had determined this figure. Previous estimates indicated that there would be only 1,500 students in Torrance elementary schools.

The 2,020 figure does not include the children from outside of Torrance, or the shooting strip of Los Angeles.

He said that where he estimated Torrance will need 2,020 elementary school teachers, now appears that 87 would be needed.

For that reason, it is essential that the additional funds

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## City Nets Nearly \$5,000 Because Of Official U. S. Census Taken Recently

Torrance already has reaped a rich reward for having a special but official U. S. census taken this year, according to figures from State Controller Thomas H. Kuchel.

The controller revealed that Torrance has been apportioned \$8,709.91 in state motor vehicle license fees (or "in lieu" tax funds) for the period from July 1, 1946, to March 31, 1947. This apportionment is based on the new census figure of 13,160.

This amount for nine months compares with a total of \$3,954.43 collected for the entire year of 1945-46, according to City Clerk A. H. Bartlett.

The cost of the census was negligible in comparison with the increase in "in lieu" tax funds. The amount apportioned to Torrance is nearly \$5,000 more for nine months than the entire 12-month apportionment for last year.

Throughout the state \$10,805,974 in motor vehicle license fees were apportioned by the state controller as of April 28.

The counties received 40%, or \$4,322,390, the 298 incorporated cities were apportioned a like amount, and the remaining \$2,161,194 was transferred to the general fund, as provided by law. The apportionment to cities and counties was made on the basis of population, the per capita rate for cities being approximately 66 cents and that for counties approximately 63 cents.

Kuchel reported that "in lieu" tax collections for the nine months ended March 31, totaled \$13,943,474, an all-time high, and an increase of 53% over the corresponding period last year. The controller transferred \$3,137,500 to the general fund to cover the current year's requirements for interest and redemption of State Highway bonds, in accordance with the existing law.

The "in lieu" tax, an excise tax imposed for the privilege of using the highways, is levied at the rate of \$1.75 per hundred dollars of valuation, based on the actual value of the motor vehicle, as determined by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

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