

FINANCIAL REPORT SHOWS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT ALREADY PROVING SUCCESS FOR CITY

Torrance Municipal Airport, acquired by deed from the War Assets Administration last week, already is a paying proposition for the city, according to Manager E. Y. Tarkington.

The airport manager, who is functioning on a commission basis calling for payment of 15 per cent of the gross, reported that he had paid into the city treasury \$1,621.44 in gross receipts since he assumed operation of the airport May 23. He says that there is an additional \$1,506 due the city at this time, making a total of \$3,127.00, operating revenue to date.

The only expense of operation, he said, is the purchase of rope and stakes, costing some \$25.

Two gasoline trucks are operating on the airport now, one owned by General Petroleum Corp., and one by Standard Oil Co., and Tarkington is in charge of both pieces of equipment.

"The feeling is a whole lot better on the airport," Tarkington remarked, "and I look for a very successful operation here as soon as the clouds clear."

He declared that the gross receipts from the airport can go as high as \$3,000 a month without spending any money.

As the airport was being deeded to the city, a Torrance taxpayer, William J. B. Hughes, and a group of Lomita businessmen claiming to represent the Civil Air Patrol third group, El M. Mosher, weekly publisher, Norman Gardiner, Lomita lumber dealer and John R. Stanton, manager of the Lomita branch of the California bank, sought to block the people of Torrance from taking over the airport, claiming that they are entitled to it for a private operation in which they have spent \$5,570.50.

A hearing on an order to show cause why a writ of mandamus should not be issued against the city, in the Lomita men's suit, was delayed from July to August 18, by request of the plaintiffs' attorney, Mrs. S. C. Gramer of the Beverly Hills law firm of Entenza and Gramer.

With the deed in its possession calling for all rights to the Army-built airport on 101 Highway, except in national emergency, the city is now negotiating with the National Guard for permanent quarters there of the 578th Engineer Combat Battalion. The engineers will be of considerable aid to the airport development in their training with heavy equipment, city officials said.

July Building Permits Reach \$664,000 Total

A \$64,000 building for the General Petroleum Corp. sent Torrance building permits soaring to a July total of \$664,000 as compared to only \$11,835 for the same month last year.

Planned to house the first unit of General Petroleum's industrial relations offices, the building will be erected near the corner of 190th st. and Crenshaw Blvd.

Permits totaling \$95,000 were taken out by the Kettler-Knolls, Inc. for 19 homes in their new subdivision at Sepulveda and Arlington ave. California-Nevada Properties Inc. took out a permit to construct a model home, which is to sell for \$25,000. Cost of construction is listed at \$9,000 and will contain all the improvements of California living including a swimming pool. A central heating plant will be thermostatically controlled from the patio in order that temperature changes will be affected inside the house at the same time as outside.

Tax Fees To City Are On Increase

Motor vehicle license fees from the State of California, known as the "in lieu" tax, will give the City of Torrance \$23,888.29 in revenue this year, according to a report to the City Council by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett.

Last year the fees amounted to only \$14,079.02.

The city received \$11,088.29 in July and will receive \$12,800 in April, Bartlett said.

Gardena City Council Acts To Ban Parking Meters After Huge Protest

The Gardena City Council voted unanimously Monday night to cancel its parking meter contract in the face of a storm of protests by Gardena merchants and residents.

A capacity crowd attended the meeting and petitions as well as the results of a postcard poll were presented to the council.

Results of the poll conducted during the month were: 1,402 opposed to the meters and 280 in favor. An additional 1,791 names appeared on petitions calling for the removal of the meters.

Under a contract signed last year, 207 parking meters were installed Feb. 3 on a six-month trial basis. This period ended Sunday Aug. 3, at which time the city was given 15 days to notify the company in writing if it wished to cancel the contract. A registered letter was mailed Tuesday morning by the city to the Karpark Company informing them of the decision.

Relief from the coin devices must await their removal by the company, however, for the city ordinance, adopted Nov. 18 and providing for collection of coins, will not be repealed.

Local residents will recall the controversy in Torrance last fall over the proposal by the City Council to install parking meters in this city. At that time a petition bearing 1,100 names discouraged any further action on the proposal.

The parkway originally was 282 feet in width, and previously 87 feet had been vacated. The second vacation will reduce the parkway to 112½ feet in width.

Marsh told the planners that the reduction was desired to facilitate the resubdivision of tracts 10805 and 10807, along Catalina ave., known as Hollywood-Palos Verdes Parkway. Multiple dwellings are planned there.

The Planning Commission also approved the subdivision map of Riviera Housing Corp., No. 14898, for the tract of unsubdivided land between tracts 10804 and 10406, in the same vicinity.

Lomita Fireman Draws 60-day Sentence

The County fireman at Lomita who started brush fires in the Palos Verdes Estates and then helped to put them out will serve 60 days in jail and pay a \$200 fine.

Justice of the Peace Frank R. Carrell suspended 120 days of a 180-day sentence when Richard H. Ross, 25, pleaded guilty to two counts of violating the public safety code.

He told Justice Carrell at his first hearing that he had a "grudge" against Palos Verdes Estates.

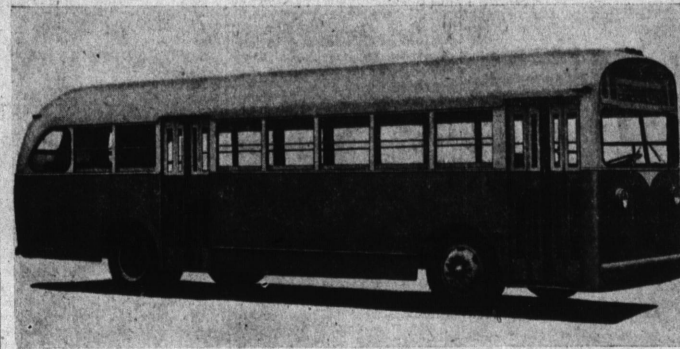
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NEW BUSES . . . One of two new Reo buses which will be put into operation this week by the Torrance Municipal bus lines. Designed to accommodate 34 passengers, the new buses contain the latest features developed by the Reo Motor Co.

Simpson Says D. A. Has No 'Labor Policy'

"What is your policy toward labor and what action could we expect your office to take in event of violence in a labor dispute?"—asked a Torrance Kiwanian of William E. Simpson, Los Angeles County District Attorney who addressed the Torrance Kiwanis club Monday evening.

The District Attorney's office has "no labor policy," Simpson replied, "the Penal Code is our Bible and we follow it regardless of the parties involved." He added that in cases occurring within the boundaries of a municipality, the District Attorney's office usually worked through the local police department.

District Attorney Simpson addressed the club on the topic "My Job," in which he explained the various phases of the huge task which last year included a case load in Los Angeles County of over 15,000 alleged offenses against the law. Simpson was introduced by Police Chief John E. Stroh, program chairman.

Escaped Convict Captured After Chase By Police

Carrying a gun stolen from the home of Daniel Pierson, 1319 Plaza Del Amo, John E. Nagle, 23-year-old escaped trusty was captured Sunday afternoon in a field near Normandie ave. and Sepulveda Blvd.

Nagle escaped from Harbor General Hospital Saturday night and aroused the suspicion of Bud Carr, 1340 Ocean ave., who called the police. Officers Roy Haberman and L. O. Riggs cornered Nagle, who drew his pistol, saying, "You'll not take me alive."

Haberman drew his gun and started to fire but Nagle dropped his weapon and surrendered. He was booked at San Pedro station on suspicion of burglary.

Two Men Apprehended For Stealing Safes From Local Business Houses

Quick work on the part of Torrance police in cooperation with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's office resulted in the apprehension this week of two men charged with taking safes from two Torrance business establishments.

The two men, Robert Mitchell and Danny Stillman, both of Huntington Park, now are in the Torrance jail each on one count of first degree burglary and two counts of second degree burglary. Preliminary hearings have been arranged for next Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Justice Court, Gardena.

Last Wednesday night a safe with contents valued at \$1,000 was removed from the Torrance Bowling Alley on Carson st. and Sunday night a safe containing \$200 was taken from the Worker's Cafe at 7737 Cabrillo ave. Both safes, having been broken open, were abandoned at Nigger slough near 190th st., where children of a Los Angeles family picnicking in the area discovered them, according to police.

Besides being charged with theft of the safes, Mitchell and Stillman are believed responsible for two burglaries at the Torrance Laundry last week. Several hundred dollars worth of clothes and equipment were taken, as well as two guns on each occasion. Police said the thieves unsuccessfully tried to open the laundry safe but apparently were scared off and left through a window.

New Buses Arrive In Torrance For Expansion Of Needed Local Lines

Arrival of two new 34-passenger Reo buses was announced this week by William Murphy, city bus manager. The new buses, purchased by the City of Torrance for approximately \$10,000 each, will go into operation immediately, temporarily replacing other buses scheduled for overhauling.

During the next few weeks the entire fleet of 11 buses will undergo servicing preliminary to a contemplated expansion of operations by the Torrance Municipal Bus Lines Sept. 1.

Murphy said yesterday that bus service to Sealife Ranchos, in Southwest Torrance, will start within 10 days. The Long Beach-Inglewood-North Torrance service is due to start by Sept. 1.

Continental pusher type motors power the buses, which feature forced draft ventilation. An overhead air duct extends the full length of the body to force air to radiator, functioning as an insulator protecting the entire top of the vehicle from extreme heat and cold, thus promoting passenger comfort.

Low steps and an unobstructed floor promote passenger convenience and safety. The Reos were selected by the city on the basis of demonstrated ability to give dependable, economical and profitable operation.

TORRANCE HIGH SCHOOL TO COST \$360,278 THIS YEAR REDONDO BUDGET INDICATES

Torrance High School operation this year will cost some \$360,278, according to the figures in the budget of Redondo Union High School District of which Torrance became a part by vote on January 24.

Trustees of the district conducted a public hearing Tuesday night on a budget calling for total expenditures and transfers of \$834,865 for the present school year, as compared with actual expenditures of \$474,487 last year when the district operated only Redondo Union High.

Of the increase needed to operate the district, some \$85,000 is set aside for equipment, most of which has been purchased and is being installed in Torrance High School.

However, Redondo, with its \$1 per \$100 assessed valuation will be able to finance the operation of the Torrance school nicely, since the assessed valuation of

Weather Record

Month	Maximum	Minimum
July	88	62
Aug.	86	60
Sept.	85	60
Oct.	83	60
Nov.	82	60
Dec.	75	59

Schools Tackle 7th, 8th Grade Reading Problem

All 7th and 8th grade teachers of Torrance City School district are being asked to become familiar with elementary school reading problems and techniques, according to Superintendent of Schools J. H. Hull.

In a letter to the teachers, he suggested that the teachers refer to the text "Remedial Reading," by Dolch.

"Under present plans most 7th and 8th grade teachers can expect a class in remedial reading, or language, or arithmetic," Superintendent Hull said.

"We may have the usual 7th or 8th grader with 3rd or 4th grade reading or arithmetic ability within our groups, and our job will be to do something about it."

Lack of proper instruction in reading, writing and arithmetic by Los Angeles schools was one of the indictments against the district which resulted in Torrance forming its own school system.

Hull said that one copy of Scott Foresman reading series for each two children has been ordered to supplement the State series up through Grade 6.

Kindergarten teachers can plan on three hours of teaching, one hour preparation and two hours of assignments when needed, possibly remedial reading, music, or wherever talents best fit, he said.

Textbooks For Torrance Schools Are Available

Torrance schools will be able to procure copies of all textbooks this far selected according to the State Division of Textbooks and Publications in Sacramento.

In a letter to Superintendent Hull last week, Ivan R. Waterman, chief of the division, stated that with the possible exception of certain music textbooks, all the requested books could be supplied. The letter was in reply to a requisition submitted July 7.

El Camino College Budgets Half Million For Campus First Year

El Camino college, at Alondra park, North Torrance, will spend more than a half million dollars in capital improvements on the campus, according to the budget of the College district as submitted to public hearing last Friday.

A total of \$378,000 will be expended in operation of the college for the present year.

Of this sum, current expenses, including teacher salaries, will amount to \$251,000. Administrative expenses will be \$36,000; instruction expenses, \$165,000; operation of school plant, \$15,000; maintenance of school plant, \$5,000; auxiliary services, \$20,000; other fixed charges, \$10,000.

Of the \$510,530 capital outlay budget, \$20,000 will go into the land fund; \$10,000 into improvement of grounds; \$460,530 into buildings and \$20,000 into equipment.

The money paid to the county for the 81-acre site on Alondra park will be expended over a period of years and will be returned to the campus in improvements of a nature which will serve both the public and the college, such as a stadium, light and other facilities.



WINS HIGH AWARD . . . Lt. Col. M. T. McLean shown receiving the Legion of Merit from Major General William Powers, A. A. F. Hq., in Washington, D. C. A graduate of Torrance High School with the class of summer 1927, Colonel McLean was decorated for his outstanding work in the preparation of a supply manual and also for "brilliant staff work."

CITY NOW OPERATING UNDER BUDGET AS COUNCIL ADOPTS EXPENSE ESTIMATES FOR YEAR

The City of Torrance now is operating on a budget, as required by the City Charter.

The City Council Tuesday night, with three members present, adopted the budget submitted July 15 by Logan R. Coffin, auditor under contract to the city, for City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, the official responsible under the Charter for preparation of the budget.

The Council did not write a budget last year.

Voting were Mayor J. Hugh Sherfy, Jr., Councilmen A. L. Jackson and W. H. Tolson. Absent were Councilmen C. M. Gilbert and G. V. Powell.

While no tax rate has been set, the budget contemplates a 99-cent general rate. If this rate is adopted, tax revenues, plus the sales tax of one-half of one per cent and the other revenues coming to the city, should provide a surplus of between \$50,000 and \$75,000 at the end of this year. This would take into consideration the "cushion" provided by the city's inability to levy more than 95 per cent of the assessed valuation, and the additional funds available through the unsecured rolls which cannot be levied upon but which produce considerable revenue since they are taxable.

The Torrance Industries Tax Committee had told the Council previously that the needs of the city can be met nicely this year with a general fund rate of 91 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, a cut of eight cents.

Not taken into consideration in the budget is the operation of Torrance Municipal airport, with its revenue and expenses, nor the Bus department, which has been doing a business of \$14,000 a month.

Estimated disbursements for the year are \$368,403 including 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, advertising, music and parks fund of \$28,000, all of which is slated for park maintenance excepting \$2,100 earmarked for the Chamber of Commerce. The promotion fund of one cent per \$100 tax levy is also included in the above total expenditures.

Estimated receipts are \$446,498, from all sources.

Tax revenues are based on an assessed valuation of about \$28,000,000, and contemplate receipts of \$311,000 from the three levies. Revenue from the sales tax is estimated at \$24,000 but is earmarked for payment on the loan to Torrance Municipal Improvement District No. 1, known as (Continued on Page 4-A)

Jack Pine Will Revamp Multiple Rental Unit Plan

Having won the necessary zoning variance from the City Council, architects for Jack Pine are revamping their plans to provide for a multiple rental project at Crenshaw Blvd. and Dominguez st. which will not involve vacation of streets.

It was reported yesterday that the new design will detract from the modern development proposed from the area, in that the beauty of the project will be reduced, but that it is acceptable to the Federal Housing Administration as is the zoning variance granted July 30 by the Council in place of rezoning.

It was reported last week that vacating of the streets as requested by Pine would cause them to revert to former owners, and that such reversion would block the big project.

However, there is such critical need for such a multiple rental project here that the design has been changed to permit construction which will keep the streets open. However, it was pointed out, they can be closed for certain hours of the day for use as playgrounds. The previous plan called for all playgrounds, laundries, garages, garbage collection facilities to be on the interior of the big project. Under the new plans these facilities will be on the street.

Remco holds the reversionary street rights formerly held by the Dominguez Land Co.

New Paint And Furniture Cheer THS Classrooms

Torrance high school classrooms and halls, now undergoing a thorough face-lifting, will welcome students this fall with a newer and shinier appearance.

In addition to freshly painted walls and floors, the buildings will boast new equipment in various rooms.

Principal Lloyd Walker announced the arrival this week of 450 new desks. About 250 of these have been assembled and placed in the classrooms, he said.

New furniture will be in place in the library by the end of this week. The library has already received fresh coats of paint and new floor dressing.

Floors and halls are being cleaned and refinished, and many of the rooms are being painted. It is the plan to paint just as much of the building as time will permit, Principal Walker stated.

Renovation of the school buildings will continue until Sept. 8, when faculty members meet to plan for the opening of school September 15.

Education Board Adopts School Budget Tuesday

The School Board Tuesday night, formally adopted the proposed budget for the Torrance City School District for the year ending June 30, 1948.

As explained at the public hearing Aug. 1, the budget calls for total expenditures and transfers of \$457,450, plus a general reserve of \$100,000 for a total of \$557,450.

It will be financed entirely by a \$1.40 per \$100 school tax rate, as Torrance does not get any state school support this year. Since Torrance does not exist as a school district last year, the state does not allocate any money to it. The "last year's" allocation is therefore zero.