

\$25,000 Set Aside for Pool

Tax Rate Takes 4-Cent Dip

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Council Sets New Tax Rate at \$1.12

Torrance's city tax rate dropped four cents Tuesday night as the City Council adopted the 1949-50 tax rate of \$1.12. A breakdown of the rate shows the General tax rate to be 93 cents, the library tax four-cents, and the retirement fund tax 15 cents.

Announcement of the 93 cent general tax rate came somewhat as a surprise to members of the Tax and Budget Committee who had recommended a 91 cent general tax rate.

City Manager George Stevens explained that the council hiked the rate to bolster the recreation fund. The two cent increase will add approximately \$9400 to the recreation fund, it was indicated.

The tax rate of the water districts will remain the same as last year. The rate for MID Number 1 is 25 cents on land only; for MWD Number 1—26 cents on land and improvements; and for MWD Number 2—25 cents for land and improvements.

Three of the members of the Tax and Budget Committee, R. I. Plomert Jr., Sam Levy, and Mrs. R. C. Brown expressed the opinion that they did not favor any jump in the tax rate over that which they recommended to the council.

"With the increased number of housing units throughout the city I believe you can make it

First Pueblo Scout Troop To Get Charter

Organization of Pueblo's first Boy Scout troop, was announced last week by Leland Franz, vice chairman of O. and E. committee of the Harbor Area Scout Council. Organizational meeting was held Wednesday evening, August 17.

The new Scout group's charter is expected to be presented early next month, Franz stated. A ceremony to which the public will be invited will accompany presentation of the charter.

According to Franz, Carmel Cook who is a member of the Torrance Police force, will serve as assistant scout master. The new troop's first scoutmaster has not been announced.

All boys between the ages of 11 and 14 are invited to join the troop, Franz declared. Planning for Autumn activities has already been started.

VFW POST TO ASSIST VETS FILING FOR INSURANCE DIVIDEND

James G. Caldwell, Veterans of Foreign Wars Service Officer, will be in the V.F.W. Hall August 29, 30 and 31 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. to assist veterans in completing their forms for National Service Life Insurance dividends, according to Jess Dean, post commander.

Application forms for National Service Life Insurance dividends will be available to veterans August 29 at all veterans' administration offices, post offices, and service organizations according to VA officials.

Widows or other beneficiaries need not apply for these forms, as distribution to them will be made automatically from Washington, D.C., it was announced.

Wallet, \$50 Taken

A wallet containing \$50 was taken from her purse while she spent the afternoon in Torrance Municipal Park, Mrs. Emily Raymond, of Culver City, told Torrance police yesterday.

The Time Has Come . . .

. . . for the Torrance Herald to fulfill its civic responsibilities to the citizens of this city . . . and to ask a few vital questions of the men who signed the recall charges against Mayor Sherfey and Councilmen Haggard, Powell and Jackson.

Chairman William Bowman and Secretary Kenneth Kail of the Torrance Civic Betterment Committee . . . how do you answer the following questions?

Mr. Kail, can you deny that you gave an address on Torrance Boulevard as your bona fide residence knowing at the time that you did not live at that address? Did you know that the Torrance Herald has a signed statement from the occupant of that address that you do not live at that address?

Deny if you can Mr. Kail, that you are not a registered Torrance Voter, in fact deny if you can that you are not even a Torrance citizen and yet you seek to recall our Mayor and three councilmen?

Did you know that ALL the facts and records on why you were once suspended from the City Water Department and twice dismissed as a Municipal Bus driver could be published?

Why is it Mr. Bowman, that you have repeatedly ignored and refused to answer the question put to you by this newspaper as to "Who are your backers?"

What is behind your reason for failing to identify the other six members of the so-called Torrance Civic Betterment Committee?

And if you can Mr. Kail, what is its status? Is it a corporation, a joint venture, a co-partnership, a social club, or a political organization? Has it been incorporated or are the individuals in the group liable?

Here are some specific questions concerning the charges and accusations you have levied against Mayor J. Hugh Sherfey, and Councilmen Bob L. Haggard, A. L. Jackson, and George C. Powell.

It is not true, in spite of your charges to the contrary that City Manager George V. Stevens was LEGALLY appointed to that position under Ordinance No. 326.

Do you know that he is serving as (1) City Manager, (2) City Engineer, (3) City Purchasing agent at a salary far less than would be the total for all three jobs?

Does it not follow then that the city is not spending \$3660 a year needlessly as you claim but that actually the city is saving as much as \$5000 yearly or perhaps even more by so employing a civil engineer as city manager as is the case with Mr. Stevens?

Did you know that the City Attorney has rendered the opinion: ". . . there was nothing illegal, under either the Charter or the Ordinance, insofar as the appointment of Mr. Stevens is concerned."

How can you claim that Mr. Haggard and Mr. Powell are "guilty" of "illegally" hiring Mr. Stevens when neither of these gentlemen were members of the city council at the time?

Did you look at the report by the city auditor before you charged that the airport is not providing substantial income as it was once capable of doing? Obviously not or you would have discovered that in 1948-49 the income was \$1,136.17 as against \$915.19 the year before.

Did you look into the record and find that Mr. Haggard did NOT make the recommendation to pave Juniper avenue as you indicate and that he did not even vote on the matter?

Can you claim that it is a crime for a man to own property on a street which is paved by the city?

Why did you not point out in your charges that Yukon ave-

Without increasing the general tax rate."

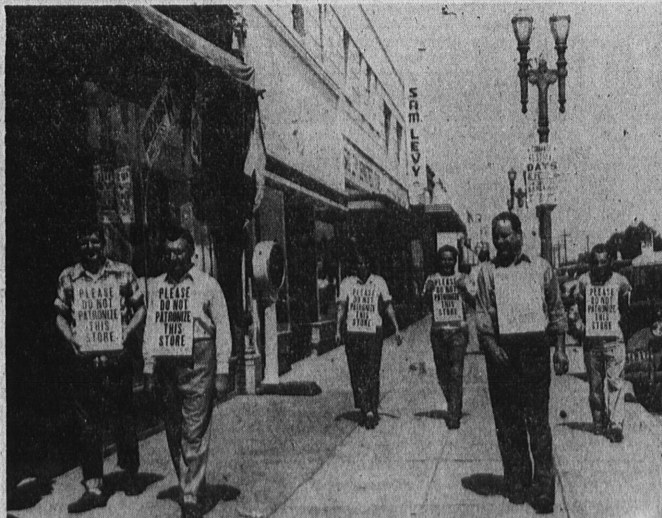
Following the action which adopted the new tax rate the council adopted the \$643,783 budget for the coming year.



DEAN L. SEARS
... Red Feather Job is His



SAM LEVY
... And His Too
(DETAILS ON PAGE 11)



AGAIN . . . Haskell Tidwell's Retail Clerks Union Pickets parade past entrance to Universal Furniture Store after owner refused to force his employees to join Tidwell's union. Employees said they were not consulted by Tidwell. . . . Herald Photo.

Council Allots \$25,000 for Swimming Pool

First definite step toward the acquisition of a swimming pool in Torrance was taken by the City Council Tuesday night in alloting \$25,000 from the public improvement fund for the start of a pool fund.

The motion, instigated by Councilman Haggard, carried unanimously, Councilman George Powell, who suffered a broken leg in an accident Monday, was unable to attend the meeting and could not cast his vote.

Immediately following the allocation of the money, Charlie Gots, leading backer of the swimming pool campaign, suggested the mayor appoint a committee to investigate the problems of building a pool.

Appointed to the committee were Gots, Councilman Haggard, City Manager George Stevens, Recreation Chairman Bud Lee, and John Hanks.

In an earlier bit of business the city clerk read a letter from the Board of Education indicating they would be willing to operate the pool if it were located adjacent to the high school. When not used for class instruction the pool would be opened to the general public it was indicated in the letter from Emmet W. Ingram, Assistant Superintendent of Schools and Business Manager of the Torrance Unified School District.

The allocation does not disturb a Recreational operating budget of \$26,297. Last year's recreational expenditures amounted to \$23,819.76.

The allocation of the \$25,000 will be made from the public improvement fund which includes a fund of \$30,000 earmarked for recreational improvements.

Polio Rate on Decline in Torrance

Polio, although reportedly on the increase in most of the U.S. has slackened a long way off last year's pace in Southern California; less than half last year's number has been reported in the Torrance area.

According to Dr. Lee W. Powell, of the county health center here 22 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported here this year. At this time a year ago, 46 cases were on record. Population of the area served by the Torrance health center is about 120,000.

"It may be that people are building up an immunity to the disease," Dr. Powell declared. "Many people contract polio in its milder form and never are aware that they have it—but they become immune just the same."

Tidwell Demands Employer Force Workers into Union

A mass picket line was thrown around the Universal Furniture Store Tuesday morning because the owners of the store refused to force their employees to join Haskell Tidwell's Retail Clerks Union.

Harry Ostler, owner of the store at 1317 Sartori avenue, speaking through the Harbor Area Employers Council, said that none of his employees had been approached by Tidwell and that no arguments have been presented to them as to why they should join the union.

The clerks reiterated this statement saying that after two days of picketing by Tidwell he still had not asked them to join.

According to the Harbor Area Employers Council, Tidwell has requested that Oster demand his employees join the Retail Clerks Union.

Tidwell, when questioned about the picketing by a Torrance Herald reporter, said: "I haven't any statement to make for that— newspaper of yours."



"SEE, I'VE FOUND ONE" . . . It's a 1929 dime that pretty Beverly Moor is holding and saving to use during the opening event of the Annual Festival Days. Beverly's dime may be worth a down-payment on a used car, a set of furniture, or a host of other items being offered by local merchants this weekend. For more details see the advertisements in this issue of the Torrance Herald. —Herald Photo.

Merchants Set 'Festival Days' Sales Event

Three weeks of "Festival Days," a sales program designed to prove the convenience and dollar-saving values of Torrance shopping will be staged by local merchants under the direction of the Retail Merchants Division of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Festival Days will be in progress on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of each week until September 10.

According to Paul Diamond, merchants division chairman, the sales program gets under way today with a "1929 Dime Sale." Merchants, through Saturday, will have special high-priced items which can be purchased with a 1929 dime.

Two other sales features will follow, Diamond said.

School Staff Set for Sept. 12

Torrance's school-age children will be back at their desks on Monday, Sept. 12.

For high school students new to the Torrance School District, or for those who haven't completed their high school registration, sign-up procedures will start at Torrance High School on August 29 and will continue exclusive of Labor Day—until Sept. 8.

BANK NINE WINS

Narbonne's Paul 'Lefty' Pettit hurled his third straight tournament victory for the Bank of America last night defeating the Yugoslav-American nine, 11-7, in the Southern California semi-pro competition at Torrance Park.

Buzz Job's Reward

Lyle Gray Was a Flyer But They Done Him Wrong

Lyle Gray's co-workers at the Columbia Steel Plant here knew him for a steady and conscientious worker. A bricklayer, Gray handed his job with skill and precision.

However, when Thursday morning dawned bright and cloudless, Gray, 46, decided it

George Powell Breaks Leg In Auto Mishap

Messages of condolence and speedy recovery cascaded across the rumpled bedside of Councilman George Powell yesterday. Powell, victor of many skirmishes in matters of state, had broken his leg.

The accident occurred in Gardena Tuesday, at an automobile sales agency where Powell is employed. He was in the process of demonstrating the ease with which a trailer could be attached to the rear bumper of one of the agency's cars, when a second car accidentally backed into the councilman. His leg, trapped between the bumpers of both cars, broke.

After treatment by a private physician, Powell was taken to his home at 24402 Ward street, Walthers.

'Dew' Deluge Hits Torrance

The rains came this week and caught unsuspecting Torrance with its coat off.

Light showers, preceded by a thunder storm, drenched Torrance for about 30 minutes near the noon hour Monday. The Fire Department recorded .04 inches of rain for the brief storm.

With the exception of a heavy early morning fog yesterday, warm, moist tropical weather has prevailed. The WM hiked the temperature to 83 degrees Sunday for the benefit of beach goers.

Here's a breakdown of the week's temperatures:

Aug.	Max.	Min.
18	80	55
19	80	55
20	74	59
21	83	60
22	81	64
23	82	65
24	77	55

was time he showed his buddies that he could do more than lay bricks. With a fellow worker and his own private pilot's license in tow, Gray hopped in a small plane and took off for the steel plant.

His timing was perfect. As Gray's buddies prepared to take their customary lunch-time breather, they were greeted by a close-up of a plane virtually "dusting" tops of the buildings. Some employees enjoyed the show; others, more familiar with cold rolls than snap rolls, called the authorities.

By the time the back-to-work whistle blew, Gray was in trouble. Members of the sheriff's air detail were waiting—evidently in hand—when he landed.

The bricklayer, who has some 2000 safe flying hours to his credit, will be asked to answer to charges of careless and reckless operation of his plane.

Attempt Murder Suspect Trapped By Local Police

A 12-week search for Homer F. Neal, wanted for questioning by Long Beach police with regard to an attempted murder of two of that city's residents, ended in Torrance Sunday morning.

Acting on a tip furnished by a neighbor of Neal's wife who lives here, Torrance Police Sgt. Swayne Johnson and a Long Beach officer took Neal into custody. He was arrested, Sgt. Johnson indicated, as he tried to avoid capture near his trailer court home at Figueroa street and 221st street.

At the Long Beach jail, Neal yesterday denied implication in an incident June 4 which nearly took the lives of a middle-aged Long Beach couple.

At that time Mr. and Mrs. Theodore R. Raymond suffered first, second and third degree burns when gasoline was tossed into their bedroom and ignited.

Neal had been sending the Raymond couple "threatening letters" prior to the event, Long Beach police stated.

DISTRIBUTOR CAP TAKEN
A distributor cap was stolen from the car of R. J. Ross while the auto was parked in the alley in back of 1724 Arlington avenue, Ross told police Thursday.