

RECREATION DIRECTOR TO HEAD CLINIC PANEL

Frank H. Carpenter, superintendent of recreation, will preside as chairman of a luncheon program committee meeting Tuesday in the Los Angeles Athletic Club, it was announced this week.

The meeting will be held to discuss a sports clinic for the Southern California area, Carpenter said.

Working in behalf of the Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation, the committee will discuss plans for holding such a clinic in the near future.

Such a clinic would be used to discuss the program, organization and control of Southern sports events. Standardization of the sports field would be one of the main items considered, Carpenter said.

Among the experienced recreation leaders which announced plans to attend the meeting are Ferdinand Bahr, Southern California State Recreation Commissioner; Dudley Shunway, Los Angeles Municipal Sports director and superintendents of recreation from many Southern cities.

Dedication Of El Retiro Building Set

Carnival booths, races, and formal dedication ceremonies have been slated for the official opening of the new recreation building at El Retiro Park in Hollywood Riviera Saturday afternoon.

The Carnival booths will be sponsored by the youth groups of the area and will open at noon to start the festival.

Dedication ceremonies will begin at 2:30, and the races and other contests for the old and the young will follow the formal dedication. The Torrance Area Youth band will add to the festivities with a concert.

Moving into the evening, the carnival atmosphere will subside and at 4 p.m. a barbecue dinner will be served.

The program will be capped with a community dance in the new recreation building following the barbecue.

All arrangements for the gala opening of the new building have been made by members of a special dedication program committee headed by Mrs. Paul J. Howey.

Checkers Winners At Perry Listed

Following are the winners of the Checkers and Carroms contests last Thursday at Perry Playground:

Checkers — Ronnie Gilham, Kenny Hall, Don Fichtner, Leroy Thompson, Duke Bingham, and Dick Hedgecock.

Carroms — Joe and Dick Hedgecock, Victoria and Billy Almeida, Ron Rose, and Omega Tarply.

Playground King, Queen to Reign

Climaxing the summer recreation program will be the selection of a playground king and queen to reign over the open house program to be held at the Civic Auditorium Thursday evening, Aug. 31.

Finalists for the royal honors will be selected from next week's health contest winners at the various playgrounds throughout the city.

Selection of the king and queen will be based on poise, appearance, grooming, neatness, personal cleanliness and posture, recreation officials say.

Any player, 12 years old or less, is eligible to enter competition for the royal titles.

G. P., Senness Take Out Huge Building Permits

Building permits issued by James Dresser, building inspector, last week included the following:

Roy Peterson, 2060 and 2064 West Carson street, store addition and boiler room, \$2500; Wittigdon, 1218 Crenshaw boulevard, garage, \$480; John F. Phillips, 2019 Reynolds drive, convert garage to bedroom, \$300; Ana McFarland, 1734 Ardath avenue, terrace control, \$400; Paramount Building Supply, 3401 Torrance boulevard, underground storage tank, \$100; Walter J. Sokolowski, 5245 Binkerd road, utility room, \$1000; General Petroleum Corporation, addition to refinery, \$70,000; K. Sande Senness, 12 new homes in Pacific Hills, \$87,200; Carl C. Carstens, 1452 Post avenue, concrete block rumpus room, \$3500; Kenneth Carr, 311 Via Camino del Campo, residence and garage, \$13,675; Inglewood Farms, 3400 Del Amo, office addition, \$7500; Joe J. Savant, 2043 W. 223rd street, frame dwelling, \$6000; Philip J. Wizer, 17013 Alkinson avenue, garage, \$450; Mrs. Ida Hastings, 1270 Sartori avenue, store building, \$15,000.

At the last meeting between the negotiating committee and the City Council, immediately preceding the regular council meeting of August 8, 1950, we presented facts and figures that would justify the increase in salary and also the additional holidays requested.

For an example, Torrance had an assessed valuation of \$44,309,410.00 for the year 1949, from which the City derived its revenue by taxation. The City of Compton which had an assessed valuation of only \$35,851,700.00 pays its lower bracket employees at a higher rate than does Torrance.

Compton is chosen for comparison because of its geographical proximity and its nearness in assessed valuation.

The following are some of the lower bracket classifications and how they compare: For Laborer:—

City Employees Tell Views on Check-off Ban

(Continued from Page 1)

August 8, 1950, Councilman Blount made a statement against the United Public Workers of America Local No. 360, of which a number of Torrance City employees are members, which we trust was not intended as malicious and slanderous on his part but as a result of misunderstanding.

He said "we are at present in the midst of a shooting war where American boys are fighting and dying to try, in some measure, to combat the inroads of Communism. I would like to move that the City Council instruct the City Clerk to discontinue the collection of union dues for Local No. 360, United Public Workers of America, until such time as the City employee members have severed their affiliation with the United Public Workers of America who have been declared to be Communist-controlled."

We the members of Local No. 360 UPW of A would like to state that the policy of the Local is established by the Executive Board and approved by all members. All members of the Executive Board are elected yearly and are all City employees.

All members have given the loyalty oath, also all members pledge allegiance to the flag at the start of each meeting.

We would like to present our stand, and the reasons for it, on the controversial issue between the local members and the Torrance City Council.

All conditions and the increase in wages requested were formulated by a committee of five city employees, nominated and duly appointed by the membership. These requests have been suitably in a retaliatory measure by the City Council in voting to discontinue with the check off system in effect now, for union dues. The psychology apparently being to attempt to break the union by causing inconvenience to the employee and by trying to intimidate the employee by implying that they are communistically dominated.

At the same time they continue to collect insurance premiums for the insurance now in force and forwarding monies collected to the Insurance Co. To us this seems discriminatory.

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For an example, Torrance had an assessed valuation of \$44,309,410.00 for the year 1949, from which the City derived its revenue by taxation. The City of Compton which had an assessed valuation of only \$35,851,700.00 pays its lower bracket employees at a higher rate than does Torrance.

Compton is chosen for comparison because of its geographical proximity and its nearness in assessed valuation.

The following are some of the lower bracket classifications and how they compare: For Laborer:—

Per month
Torrance\$184.00 to \$221.00
Compton\$200.00 to \$220.00
For Park Maintenance—
Torrance\$184.00 to \$221.00
Compton\$220.00 to \$240.00
For Garage Attendant—
Torrance\$193.00 to \$221.00
Compton\$225.00 to \$250.00

The City employees, as a whole, have not received a salary increase in over two years. In the meantime commodity and food costs have increased appreciably and continue to do so. As a result the lower bracket employees are being subjected to hardships because of the low rates.

The lowest starting rate for labor in this area is \$1.19 per hour. The hourly rate of a number of lower bracket employees of Torrance ranges from \$1.06 per hour to \$1.14 per hour. So in comparison with another city of less assessed valuation and with private enterprise there is an appreciable inequity.

However, at the top Torrance pays more; the City Manager receiving \$10,000.00 per year, while the Compton City Manager receives from \$7,200.00 to \$7,800.00 per year.

We do not advocate a reduction in salary for anyone but we do advocate an equitable rate for all brackets.

Upon presentation of facts and figures the Council made the statement that they would take the matter under consideration and notify us of their decision. However, upon the close of our meeting they proceeded immediately into the Council Chambers and convened in regular session.

During the meeting a motion was made by Councilman Drele to allow all employees 11 holidays; this to adjust the inequity existing because of clerical workers receiving 11 holidays and manual workers receiving only 7. The motion was seconded by Councilman Powell. Upon vote Drele and Powell voted yes; Councilmen Blount, Spelman and Haggard voted no. A second motion was then introduced by Councilman Drele to advance all employees one step

in the five step plan now in effect in Torrance. Again seconded by Councilman Powell. Upon vote Councilmen Drele and Powell voted yes, Councilmen Blount, Spelman and Haggard voted no. We are inclined to wonder where and when they had time and opportunity to discuss these matters.

This might be likened to a jury that made up their minds the defendant was guilty in advance and even when presented with incontrovertible evidence as to the defendant's innocence still returned a verdict of guilty.

Neither of the above seem just and democratic procedure to us.

By the foregoing we have endeavored to present our side of the question and set forth the true facts as to the cause of our difference with the City Council. This is a statement of facts without malicious intent and without vindictiveness.

Respectfully,
Local No. 360 UPW of A
SHERMAN MILLER,
Pres.

Blanket upping of pay for all city employees by raising all workers one step in the five-step plan, was suggested by Councilman Nick Drele at the August 8 meeting of the Torrance City Council.

The motion died on a 3-2 vote.

Drele also moved that all city workers be given 11 holidays with pay with a clause that those employees forced to work on holidays be paid time and a half. This motion, too, failed to carry with Drele and Councilman George Powell voting yes, Mayor Bob L. Haggard and Councilmen Harvey B. Spelman Jr. and Willys G. Blount dissenting as in the previous motion.

Included in Drele's motion was a clause that the pay of the department heads of the city should be equalized.

Thieves Strip Auto
While he was at work, someone stole the hub caps, ripple disks, and fog lights from his car, John McKenney, 25903 Eschelman avenue, related to Torrance police last week.

McKenney said the accessories were stolen last Thursday while his auto was parked in the 800 block on Sartori avenue.

Blanket Pay Hikes Nixed by Council

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