

SCHOOL OFFICIALS STILL OPPOSED TO ANNEXATION BID, FIRST HEARING MILD

Meeting Changes No Minds

School, city planning, and Great Lakes Carbon Corp. officials discussed the impact of the proposed Palos Verdes annexation on Torrance Schools Saturday morning, but apparently, nobody changed anybody else's mind on the question.

Planning Commissioners indicated that they would consider carefully the results of a special School Board meeting to be held tomorrow night with Ivar Hanson, general manager of the Rancho Palos Verdes Corp., and other company officials.

Discussion Saturday centered around a variety of topics, including school problems, and proposed plans for the area.

Present at the meeting were Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools; Mrs. Grace Wright and Dr. Rollin R. Smith, school board members; J. A. Beasley, William A. Mason, Lawrence Wing, Bert Lynn, Beverly Smith, and John Mulvihill, planning commissioners; George Powell, commission secretary; Hanson; and E. L. Gerkin, Engineering Service Corp. representative.

School Board Opposed

The School Board is unanimous in opposing the annexation," President Grace Wright declared. "We feel that Torrance taxpayers are going to pay the major portion for the bill for annexation, and that we would place a price tag on it."

At the same time, Hanson admitted that the area would not pay for itself at first, but would eventually do so. He and Dr. Hull disagreed over the potential assessed valuation of the land.

Admitting that Hanson pre-

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SPORTS ANNOUNCER TO ADDRESS LEAGUE

Sportscaster, Cleve Herman will speak at a get-acquainted meeting of the Pacific Coast Little League at the Walteria Elementary School Wednesday evening at 7:30, it was announced here Saturday.

Herman will have pictures of the 1954 World Series and the 1949 Little League World Series to show during the meeting.

Several city officials indicated that they would be in attendance at the meeting. The meeting will be open to the public.

KIRKHAM'S SEEK TO GET RID OF STINKY GUEST

A guest came to call on the Jack Kirkhams, of 18545 Ashley Ave., last Christmas, but none of the family likes him. In fact, they think he is a little stinker.

As a result, they have been trying, unsuccessfully, to get rid of him ever since, but he won't crawl out from under the house. The unwelcome visitor is a skunk.

The trouble all started when the Kirkhams noticed a distinctive, unpleasant odor sifting through the floor of their bedroom. Kirkham ripped a hole in the closet wall, and saw Mr. Skunk, but couldn't reach him.

The Kirkhams called the Police Department, which referred them to the Fire Department, which referred them to the Health Department, which referred them to the Humane Society, which referred them to a private skunk rouser.

The skunk enthusiast placed a trap, baited with chicken wings, under the house. In three weeks, the skunk has inspected the trap, but has not entered it.

The Kirkhams now go to sleep amid the odors left by Mr. Skunk. They can hear him scratching at the walls but can't reach him.

"We are about crazy trying to think of something to do," Mrs. Kirkham said. "They told us not to shoot him or set a steel trap because the odor would be unbearable."

They would welcome any suggestions on how to get rid of their visitor. Maybe a female skunk could do the trick.

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Second Hearing Slated

Second of two hearings on the proposal to annex a huge area of Palos Verdes hills to Torrance to be held before the city's Planning Commission will get underway at 7 Wednesday evening. The first hearing, held last Wednesday evening, brought out several requests for information on the subject but no hint of organized opposition to the move.

Appearing before the hearing last Wednesday was Ivar O. Hanson, manager of Rancho Palos Verdes Corp., which is proposing to annex the 3612 acres of hill area to Torrance. Hanson presented the development plans of his firm and answered questions raised by less than a dozen of the more than 50 persons attending the meeting.

Road Plans Told

Plans of the firm to extend Hawthorne Ave., from Walters to the crest of the hill to provide more adequate access to the area was discussed by Hanson. He said much of the engineering had been done and that it was physically possible to loop the road up through the present Walters plant site of Great Lakes Carbon Corp., parent company of the firms represented on the hill. This would relieve much of the traffic congestion that could be expected in the area should Great Shaw Blvd. prove one of the only outlets to the north, he said.

Prior to Hanson's presentation, Planning Commission Secretary George Powell presented 17 communications on the subject for the record. Only four of the letters expressed opposition to the proposal; most were merely requests for additional information on the matter.

School problems continue to furnish principal source of opposition. Several of the questions from those in the audience were directed at Hanson on school matters.

Free Land Discussed

In response to one question by Mrs. Donald Hauser, of 169 Paseo de las Delicias, Hanson said, "we may have to dedicate some land to help the school get started—but it is not in the American tradition." He said that if the developers did not receive a fair payment for the land, that surrounding areas would have to pay a disproportionate cost to offset the "free" school site.

Answering other questions raised during the evening, Hanson said the developers "could win the zoning battle with the county every day of the week and twice on Sunday" if it came to that. Annexing to Torrance, he said, would allow the area to slip into a city environment without the problems of forming a separate municipal government.

No New Bonds

He also said the new water and sewer systems planned for the area were being financed through private sources and that cost of the improvements would not mean additional bonds for Torrance taxpayers. Following the Planning Commission hearings, the City Council will conduct a third hearing and render a final decision.

Flaming 4-Car Crash Hurts 6, One Critically

One man received critical injuries and five others were hospitalized following a spectacular four-car crash at Normandie Ave. and Carson St. Friday evening. Two of the vehicles involved in the crash exploded into flames and were heavily damaged.

San Pedro police said a pick-up truck driven by John L. Conn, 44, of 23305 Marigold Ave., crashed into the rear of an auto driven by Carl A. Vogel, 20, of Los Angeles. Conn's condition was described as critical following the crash.

Another auto, driven by Richard Worthington, 50, of Los Angeles, and one driven by Garry Needham, 36, of 1257 W. 219th St., also were involved in the chain reaction collision, according to police records.

Officers said the pick-up truck struck Vogel's car, which was then knocked into the third auto, which in turn struck the fourth car in the intersection.

Vogel told the HERALD after the crash that he was sitting at the intersection heading north on Normandie Ave. waiting to get a green light.

Saw Headlights

"I looked up and saw these headlights coming up on me real fast," he said. He indicated that he did not have time to do a thing before his practically new auto was struck. Vogel said he had just bought the new car five days ago and was out "putting a couple of miles on it." The car was a complete loss.

Also injured in the crash were Tom Folson, 24, of Los Angeles, who was riding with Vogel; Worthington, Mrs. Worthington, 36; Shannon Cobb, 14, of Wilmington.

Firemen from County Engine Co. 36 and from Harbor City Company 88 spent nearly an hour extinguishing the flames set off when the gas tanks on Vogel's auto exploded. The two vehicles were welded together by the terrific impact, firemen said.

Vogel and Folson were released from Harbor General Hospital following treatment for minor injuries.

Conn received injuries which included a crushed chest, and other face and body lacerations and bruises.

Falls Participating in Alabama Maneuver

Army Pvt. Kenneth D. Falls, whose wife Wanda lives at 1027 W. 223rd St., is a member of the 511th Airborne Regimental Combat Team, which will be an aggressor force in "Exercise Follow Me," a simulated atomic warfare maneuver in Alabama.

Private Falls, a demolitions expert, has been in the Army since March of last year.

174th St. Opened Between Normandie Ave. and Main

Ribbon-cutting ceremonies officially opened the new four-lane link of 174th St. between Normandie Ave. and Main St. Friday afternoon, opening the divided highway between Sepulveda on the west and Main on the east.

When another link now under construction between Alameda St. and Central Ave. is completed in November of this year, the highway will be opened as a four-lane divided highway from Sepulveda Blvd. east to Woodruff in Bellflower.

The portion between Normandie Ave. and Main St. was constructed by the Sheets Construction Co. of Gardena at a cost of \$550,000.

Vito Kovacevich Co. has been awarded a \$1,575,000 contract for the portion between Central and Alameda.

Designated as the Artesia parkway, State Highway 175



FIREMEN FIGHT FIERY CRASH . . . It took firemen nearly an hour to extinguish completely the gasoline fed flames which engulfed these two vehicles at Carson and Normandie

HERALD photo
Friday evening. Driver of the pick-up truck (right) received critical injuries.

Special Points Week Revealed

Have you received your Torrance HERALD-Merchants Coupon Book? This book is issued to those who subscribe or renew through one of the campaign workers listed below, during the Herald's \$5000 subscription campaign.

Forty Torrance merchants are participating in this great drive in giving gifts of merchandise, service, and worth while discounts to all local residents who subscribe to The HERALD during the campaign.

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The workers taking part in The HERALD's big drive are indeed deserving of the consideration and support of their friends and acquaintances. Only through such loyalty can your favorite worker reach his goal. Points on subscriptions decrease at regular intervals during the campaign.

Special Points Week

The week of Feb. 14th to and inclusive of Feb. 21st, is "Opportunity Week." In the HERALD's Campaign, and workers will earn during this special week extra bonus points in addition to those on their regular points schedule. 500,000 extra points will be earned on a new or renewal three-year subscription, and 100,000 extra points will be earned on each group

of three new or renewal one-year subscriptions the workers turn in during this special week.

Never again during the entire life of the campaign will there be another special points week which makes Opportunity Week of great significance to each worker. Opportunity Week is just what the words imply, the worker's opportunity to gain a big lead in points and gain first position for the grand capital prize, his or her choice of the new 1955 four-door Ford, Chevrolet, or Plymouth Sedan and to pile up winning points.

The following people have been engaged by The HERALD.

They are representatives of this newspaper, authorized to issue receipts and collect subscription money. Place your subscription order with one of these workers today.

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Driver Hurt As Car Flips

Seriously injured when his car went out of control, rolled over and snapped a belt, Harold Belmar, 26, of Compton, according to police.

Investigators said Belmar was traveling on Crenshaw Blvd., when he hit a steel divider, skidded 400 feet, and rolled over at 188th St., Saturday.

The driver was taken to Harbor General Hospital.

Blood Bank Will Stop Here Today

The Red Cross blood bank will be at the Civic Auditorium from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. today. Mrs. Gordon Jones, chairman, announced Friday.

Persons who have not given blood within the last three months are eligible to give blood again, she said. Persons between 21 and 60 may donate, but those under 21 must have a release slip signed by a guardian or parent.

It was learned that Willard had carried \$11,000 in insurance and that a \$6000 policy contained a two-year suicide clause which expired last Jan. 1 making the policy void in this case.

Vito Kovacevich Co. has been awarded a \$1,575,000 contract for the portion between Central and Alameda.

Designated as the Artesia parkway, State Highway 175