

Trials Open for Dismissed Police Officers Record School Budget Submitted

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Torrance Herald

Uncle Sam Just
Can't Buy Love
(See Morley, Page 26)

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CITY SETS BUILDING RECORD

A Penny for your Thoughts

With the drive for capital funds in full swing at the Torrance YMCA, the Pennies photographer asked several campaign workers for some general reflections on the campaign:

John P. Kirk, 5043 Halison St.:

"As an investment counselor, I find people anxious to invest in the youth of our community for the next three generations once they realize the importance of the program to the entire area. The YMCA has given my son and I a great deal through our Kapaha Y-Indian Guide Tribe. This is one way I can assure similar programs for dads and sons through the years."

Marshall Shipley, 22404 Marjorie Ave.:

"I am planning to go into YMCA work and I feel it is the greatest program for youth there is. I am looking forward to seeing the campaign succeed. From my work at the 'Y' during the summer, I know how much we need this new building, and I think we'll succeed."

Mrs. William Poser, 4930 Marion Ave.:

"Once in a lifetime a person has the opportunity to participate in a campaign which will serve a community for decades to come. The Torrance Family YMCA building campaign workers offer this chance to all citizens. I feel honored to be involved."

Earl Brookes, 5123 Avenue B:

"In selling the new YMCA I've been talking about the family programs of our local 'Y.' The new building will help the YMCA to further its important work in enriching family life. No work can help our city's future more than this effort."

Mrs. Harold Nelson, 5615 Via Del Collado:

"The enthusiasm shown by the people working in the campaign is a real tribute to the Torrance YMCA and its staff. If the community responds as enthusiastically, we will have a badly needed facility that will benefit all Torrance."

May Call Bennett, Peebles

Police Lt. Donald S. Hamilton, dismissed last March 12 on charges that he committed perjury before investigators for the attorney general, had been rated "a fine detective," who "should be doing more administrative and less detective" work in a personnel report filed less than two months earlier, a Civil Service Board was told yesterday.

Attorney Walter N. Anderson, representing the ex-police officer in his appeal against the dismissal, read into the trial testimony portions of Hamilton's efficiency report signed by Asst. Chief M. H. Porter on Jan. 1, 1964, giving the officer a good report.

Anderson also brought out that other reports made on Hamilton in recent years showed he had been given above standard ratings in most sections or an initial "E" denoting that he exceeded requirements.

Deputy District Atty. Benjamin Vega testified that Hamilton had come to him after the arrest of a Torrance police sergeant and sought a rejection of the case against the officer. Under questioning, Vega said "there's no question in my mind that he did and that his superior had sent him for the purpose of getting a rejection from me."

Hamilton was dismissed for telling investigators under oath that he did not ask for a rejection.

Anderson indicated that he would call 15 or 16 defense witnesses including ex-Chief Percy G. Bennett and former City Manager Wade Peebles.



TRIAL SCENE . . . This was the scene in the City Council chambers yesterday as Acting Police Chief M. H. Porter testified in the Civil Service Board trial of former police lieutenant Donald S. Hamilton. Hamilton (seated with back to camera far left) has appealed his dismissal from the de-

partment. To the right of Hamilton is his attorney, and seated at the podium (from left) are L. E. Jenkins, Francis Townsend, and George Morehart, members of the Civil Service Board, and City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer. (Herald Photo)

Boom Month Tops Former City Marks

Construction of new homes and apartment units in Torrance shattered all previous records during the month of April. A total of 333 permits, valued at nearly \$12.1 million were issued during the month by the city's building department.

The total value of permits set a new record high for a single month and exceeded the total value of all new construction begun during the first quarter of this year by more than 25 per cent.

Actual value of all permits issued was \$12,081,573. A total of 227 new single-family homes and 497 apartment units were begun under April permits.

TOTALS FOR the first four months of 1964 pointed toward another record year in construction activity. Actual value of all permits issued since Jan. 1 now stands at \$21,835,129, or about 38 per cent of all new construction in 1963.

The addition of 227 new single family homes brought to 430 the number built since Jan. 1, while a total of 785 new apartment units have been started since the first of the year.

The combined value of all residential construction covered by April building permits is \$11,888,285. The totals include one duplex unit valued at \$18,000.

TORRANCE KNOLLS, developers of the New Horizons condominium, accounted for about a third of the total value of all permits. Included in the tally were permits for 333 condominium units, garages, and a recreation building with a total value of \$4,192,930.

Other large permits which were issued included: Palos Verdes Developers, 44 homes valued at \$1,053,710; Banning Gardens, 41 homes worth \$1,039,860; and Adco Development Co., Inc., 30 homes valued at \$787,550.

Other single family homes are being built by Nomi Con-



DR. KURT T. SHERY
Board President

Dr. Shery New Board President

Dr. Kurt T. Shery was elected president of the Board of Education Monday evening. Dr. Shery, who is 55, succeeds Bert M. Lynn as presiding officer of the five-member board.

Elected vice president of the board was Mrs. Kenneth E. "Polly" Watts, the only woman on the board.

Born in Koenigsberg, Germany, Dr. Shery came to the United States in 1934. He was educated in Germany and received his medical degree from the University at Koenigsberg, which was founded

(Continued on Page 3)

Preliminary Budget Shows Expenses of \$16.9 Million

By JERRY REYNOLDS
Herald Staff Writer

Preliminary budget requests totaling nearly \$17 million were submitted to the Board of Education Monday evening.

Board members indicated immediately they would get out the paring knife—a couple of trustees sounded like they would prefer to use an axe.

Submitted with the budget was an estimate of 33,900 students in the Torrance schools next year, an 11 per cent in-

crease over present enrollment. The budget is up about 13 per cent over the current budget.

Actual figures call for expenditures of \$16,909,390, including an addition of \$332,500 for food service which must be included in the general fund as of July 1, 1964, according to a new state law.

THE FOOD service unit of the budget is, however, self supporting. Deducting the food service item from the request,

the new budget calls for about \$16.6 million in expenditures, compared with a 1963-64 budget of \$14,596,902.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, told the board in his letter of transmittal the district budget presently exceeds estimated income by about \$134,000, but he cautioned everyone that no definite estimate of income can be made until the State Legislature acts on school bills pending before it at the present time.

Dr. Hull also warned that until the county assessor releases tentative assessments for 1964-65, the district will be in doubt as to exact income from local tax sources.

S. E. WALDRIP, assistant superintendent of schools for business, told THE HERALD yesterday, "There is nothing in the budget which will not add to the educational program." Waldrip continued, "It is obvious some things will have to be cut."

Reaction from board members was immediate. William Hanson, who tried, without success, to do some long-range budgeting at the last board meeting, expressed concern that income should be lower than expenditures during the first year of the newly-voted five-year override.

"If you shoot your wad the first year," said Hanson, "then you're in real trouble."

ADOPTION of the tentative budget must be completed prior to July 1, but at the early stages of the process, only one

thing is certain: cuts—perhaps substantial curtailments in some areas—will be made.

Major increases were noted in maintenance and plant operations — the two areas in which board members made slashing cuts last year. The maintenance budget is up almost 50 per cent over last year, while the operations budget has jumped about \$170,000.

Part of the maintenance increase may be accounted for, said Waldrip, in replacement of equipment. The district has reached the point where major replacements must be made, and instructional equipment is becoming more complicated and more expensive.

THE TRUSTEES are expected to study the budget request until their next regular meeting, when actual work on reviewing and adopting the document will begin.

Lyman Offers Separation Plan for Council Offices

A reform plan for electing City Councilmen has been offered by newly elected Councilman David K. Lyman.

Describing his plan as "a compromise between our present system and the proposed councilmanic districts," Lyman asked City Attorney Stanley Remelmeyer to submit a charter amendment to the council for study.

Lyman's plan would establish separate councilmanic offices with individual candidates being allowed to file for only one office at a time. All city voters, however, would be permitted to vote for each office.

COUNCIL SEATS would not be restricted to geographic districts, said Lyman.

At the same time, Lyman advocated a system of primaries for city offices presently chosen by a vote of the public. Primaries would be held at the same time as present city elections, with run-offs being held at the same time as state primary elections in June.

Candidates receiving a majority of all votes cast in a city primary would be elected to office without being required to run again in the June elections under the proposal.

CALLING the present system a "popularity poll," Lyman complained, "no one member of the present city council was elected to office by a majority of the people voting for that office."

Lyman campaigned for office in the April election with a promise to initiate proceedings for councilmanic districts.

The new councilman said he felt he has a program which "retains the good portions of both our present system and the proposed councilmanic district system, while eliminating objectionable features of both (plans)."

50 Years in the Making

Next Sunday's edition of The Herald has been more than 50 years in the making.

It all started on Jan. 1, 1914, in a ground floor stall on the Cravens Avenue side of the Brighton Hotel in downtown Torrance when Mr. B. M. Knutson, who had been publishing a Gardena newspaper, printed and issued Vol. 1, No. 1 of the Torrance Herald.

The newspaper had four owners before the present publishers, and had something like half a dozen editors in the half century of its existence.

Next Sunday, all of this and more will be explained in the 50th Anniversary Edition of The Herald. The special edition will be sold at the Herald's regular price of 10 cents.

YMCA Campaign Reaches \$200,000 in Second Week

Volunteers raising funds for the new Torrance Family YMCA have raised a total of \$211,760 in the first two weeks of the drive, chairman George Post reported at a Tuesday evening dinner.

Post said \$113,288 in cash and three-year pledges were raised by the volunteers during the second week. Special gifts chairman Ted Olson re-

ported \$48,848 in donations from industry and large business firms.

"This huge sum is the result of dedicated calling and giving by the citizens of Torrance and Lomita," Rod A. Swartz, team campaign chairman, told the report dinner meeting.

TOP SECTION to date is led by William Poser, who reported \$22,384. Close behind are Robert T. Reid's section with \$21,457, and Leonard Kane's section with \$19,037. Top campaigner during the second week was Frank Deane, who submitted an individual report of \$5,000.

Included in the Tuesday evening report was the purchase of two offices in the new build-

ing by the South Torrance Lions Club, and the purchase of a craft-display room by the Torrance Police Officers Assn. The Las Vecinas Club purchased the girls program office, and a Torrance family purchased the counseling office.

The drive will continue until May 23, with the final dinner set for May 26.

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