

O. J. Foreman
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TORRANCE

DUMP CLOSING ORDERED BY COUNCIL

Board Candidates Open Vote Drive

SCHOOL CAMPAIGN STARTED

The campaign for election of members of the Board of Education of the Torrance Unified School District moved forward quietly this week.

There are five candidates for three offices and the election is Friday, May 16.

A contender for one of the spots on the Board is J. A. Beasley, resident of WALTERIA for years, and active in church and community work.

Born in Little Rock, Ark., in 1901, he came to California in 1920. He spent most of his youth in Denver, Colo., however.

Beasley is married, with three children in elementary schools. Mrs. Beasley is a teacher in WALTERIA School. The first president of WALTERIA Business Men's Club, Beasley has been active in school, community and church work for years. He was one of the organizers of the WALTERIA Community Methodist Church and now is its lay leader and chairman of the official board.

He has been a member of the Recreation Commission for the past three years, and an advocate of an expanded program within the range of the present city tax schedule.

The candidate was in business for himself for ten years, but now is running the plating department at Felker Mfg. Co.

FULL DAYS ASKED

"I believe that every boy and girl in Torrance has a right to a full day's schooling," Beasley said in discussing his candidacy. "Double sessions can be eliminated, even though it means temporary buildings. We have such buildings in use now at El Nido and Crenshaw schools.

"The public must be kept informed of the doings of the schools. Every parent and taxpayer has a right to all available information and a right to expression of their views. I hope a more close relationship between the Board and the public can be achieved. I believe in recreation for our boys and girls and that our schools should assume more responsibility and

(Continued on Page Seven)

Date Set for Hearing on Water Petition

May 5th has been set as the date for a public hearing on the petition of the Keystone-Avalon area for annexation to the West Basin Water District.

The Board of Directors of the District have ordered the meeting to be held at 3 p.m.

Certified figures of the assessed valuation of the area for each year from 1920-30 to date, plus a \$4500 deposit to guarantee election costs must be furnished to the directors for the meeting. The deposit will be returned if the annexation is successful, officials of the Water District said.

In order to inform voters of the area of the petition of annexation, the district has arranged to deliver 2000 copies of the legal Notice of Hearing to homes in that locality which are not considered to be within the normal circulation area of the newspaper publishing the notice.

Tickets for 101 Speeders

Since no immediate help will be forthcoming from the state in the traffic problems along 101 Highway, Nick Drale moved at Tuesday's Council meet that the City of Torrance assign two squad cars at the intersection of the highway and Roberts Road to cite motorists who do not heed speed limits.

On the premise that a little scare goes a long way, Drale asked Police Chief John Stroh to assign the cars for duty at the date and time that the most good can be done. The Council passed Drale's motion unanimously.

Further efforts to gain state aid in erecting traffic signals at strategic points along the highway will be sought, it was indicated.



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A MATCH accidentally lit in a room filled with butane gas leaking from a small wall heater caused an explosion which tore one wall off home located at 1840 W. 178th St. Owner of the house, Pedro Jimenez, was rushed to the hospital with second degree burns of the hands and face, after the explosion occurred last Wednesday night.

City May Lose 578th For Want of Armory

Whether or not the 578th Engineer Combat Battalion of the California National Guard, now in Federal service as a part of the 40th Infantry Division, in Korea, will have a home in Torrance when the unit returns and the 40th division is reestablished as a part of the National Guard was a matter of conjecture this week.

The 578th Engineers headquarters was housed in buildings on Torrance municipal airport from the time of its activation about four years ago. Company A of the 578th headquarters at Torrance ball park, and other companies had quarters in other South Bay communities. The unit entered federal service on Sept. 1, 1950.

The City of Torrance decided to the State of California a site for an armory adjacent to Torrance park, on Cabrillo avenue, but funds never were appropriated for the armory.

City Manager George Stevens told Torrance Press that the state still has access to the site, but he could not render an opinion as to future headquarters for the 578th if the state does not build an armory. The buildings on the airport no longer are available, it was pointed out.

Meanwhile, Torrance citizens who have been trying to get the state to go ahead with its armory plans for Torrance planned to contact Assemblyman Vincent Thomas relative to securing allocation of the funds. He secured \$250,000 for a San Pedro armory two years ago.

It was stated that the site on Cabrillo avenue, next to the Santa Fe tracks, is not large enough to house an engineer combat battalion's headquarters, with its motor pool and other service units.

Suggestion was made that the present city dump site at Western and Plaza del Amo might make a better location.

The armory would be a community building when completed, with all civic groups having access thereto, it was pointed out. If headquarters facilities for the 578th are not available when the unit is restored to state service, Torrance may lose the battalion, it was said.

SATURDAY RAIN LEAVES TRACE

Early morning rains on Saturday looked like the beginning of a wet week-end. The rainfall ceased, though, leaving barely a trace, according to the weather bureau in the Fire Department.

Officers for Republican Group Picked

The 68th District Republican Assembly came into being Tuesday night with the election and installation of officers of the organization at a dinner meeting in the Fish Shanty.

William H. Tolson, former Mayor of Torrance and a member of the Board of Education, was elected President. Other officers are Boris Woolley, attorney, first vice president; Mrs. Jean W. Haley, of San Pedro, second vice president; E. O. (Del) Dryer, Wilmington Chevrolet dealer, third vice president; Frank S. Selover, executive secretary of the Harbor Area Employers' Council, secretary; Dr. Alden Smith, treasurer. Executive committee members elected and seated are Mrs. Marie Holden, John B. Scott, Dr. E. S. Cassidy, Paul Loranger, Mrs. C. E. Trousdale, W. E. Bowen, Mrs. Marie L. Owens, Miss Lute W. Fraser, Mrs. Florence Sommers, Al Gianni, Howard J. Percy and Edna M. Smith.

The officers were installed by Hal Ramser, president of the Los Angeles County Republican Assembly.

The group heard a talk on national issues by W. C. Boyd, of Hollywood, and elected Bob Finch, candidate for Congress from the 17th district in the coming June primary.

Loranger made an appeal for greater interest in voting.

The 68th District Republican Assembly will hold a joint meeting with other district Assembly organizations within the 17th Congressional District for the purpose of endorsing candidates for the Republican nominations to the various offices, it was announced.

'Ballot Battalion to Urge Greater Vote in Torrance

A new army will soon be tramping the streets of Torrance. It is called the "Ballot Battalion" and it is dedicated to war, all-out war against the apathy and indifference of the voting public. It will be comprised of representatives of all non-partisan, patriotic community organizations that will join in the campaigning to urge every eligible citizen to register and vote in forthcoming elections.

The Kiwanis Club of Torrance is spearheading the initial organization meeting which will be held at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 30th, in the Council Chamber of City Hall.

In discussing the Ballot Battalion plan, Kiwanis President Paul Loranger said, "Members will consider ways and means to

Douglas Gets ALCOA Under Navy Order

Douglas Aircraft Co. announced this week that operations are underway to prepare the former ALCOA plant at 190th and Normandie for use in manufacturing "B"-assemblies for its other three plants in the Los Angeles area.

Douglas was authorized to recondition the huge factory at a cost of \$5,000,000 after the Navy took over the plant by Federal Court order.

Actual manufacturing will not begin for at least a year, Douglas officials said. There are 55 large buildings with over 1,000,000 square feet of floor space on the 226-acre site, it was reported.

An option to lease the plant from Columbus-Geneva Steel division of U. S. Steel, owners of the property, was dropped shortly before the Navy filed condemnation proceedings.

Guards and architects representing Douglas have been at the plant for several weeks, it was disclosed.

Most of the manufacturing will

G. Whyte Has Heart Attack

Grover C. Whyte, publisher of the Torrance Herald, was rushed to the hospital Monday afternoon after being stricken by a heart attack, the second in recent months.

Dr. E. Cook, the attending physician, disclosed that Whyte is in serious condition, and will be in bed for some time.

Torrance Memorial Hospital reports that Whyte has been resting well, but is none-the-less under constant supervision.

be tied in with the El Segundo plant, officials said.

At El Segundo, Douglas is building four basic types of planes for the Navy, mostly carrier planes.

The Navy condemned the plant when plans of Columbia Steel to use it for a cold rolling mill failed to materialize. Columbia has until May 23 to answer the condemnation suit filed last Friday.

PROMOTED



WILLARD H. HASLAM took the official oath of office as Assistant Chief of Police last Monday. Top scorer on a recent civil service examination, Haslam has been a member of the Torrance Police Department since 1935.

Haslam Named New Assistant Chief of Police

From patrolman to sergeant to captain to Assistant Chief of Police is the saga of Willard H. Haslam's 22 years on the Torrance police force.

Haslam's appointment to the position of Assistant Chief was announced this week by Police Chief John Stroh. Haslam was top scorer in a recent civil service examination to the job.

A native son, he has lived in Torrance since 1927. His first promotion came in 1940, when he became sergeant. In 1949 he was named captain.

Haslam, who has been active in the training of new officers, will be in charge of the afternoon shift, it was disclosed.

Other recent promotions were the elevation to lieutenant of former Sgt. A. S. Thompson, and the elevation to sergeant of former Patrolmen M. Porter, J. Maestri, and T. Morrjs.

Drale's Victory Hailed By Public

Moving with sudden swiftness — as though awakened to the fact that the people expect to have their wishes as expressed at the polls carried out — the City Council Tuesday night acted to close the city dump at once, and to require the fencing of a WALTERIA sump which has caused serious community discontent.

Councilman Nick Drale brought up the fact that he had fought for a year to have the city dump at Western avenue and Plaza del Amo closed down, and that the Council had promised to take action "within a year." He pointed out that the year is up, and asked immediate action.

He got it, and for the first time since the controversy over the dump began, the Council acted unanimously to end the dump menace by ordering City Manager George Stevens to take steps to acquire before the next Council meeting sites at Del Amo and Madrona avenue which the manager had listed as available.

The effort to close the dump started when it was revealed that the present site was infested with rats, flies and filth.

The biggest vote for the "BID for Better Government" ticket in the Council election April 8, which brought about the election of Drale and Councilman Victor Benstead, came from the Kettler area precinct.

Drale's action also brought about orders for enforcement of the law to require the fencing of the Senness sump back of WALTERIA. The previous City Council which licensed use of the sump as a dump had promised to have it fenced but failed. The precinct involving people from that area turned out the next largest vote for the "BID" candidates.

That the City Council had decided to adhere to the will of the people in these two instances was cause for rejoicing among residents of the area as it was revealed that Councilman Drale at last had won his point in securing the elimination of the two menacing situations.

Explosion Rips Home, Owner Badly Burned

A mystery explosion which was felt throughout the harbor area last Wednesday night, was explained by Torrance Fire Department.

Station 3 responded to a call to 1840 W. 178th St., and found that a wall had been blown out of the building after leaking butane which filled the house was accidentally ignited.

Acting Fire Captain W. Johnston theorized that Pedro Jimenez, who resides at the 178th St. address, lit a match to fire a wall heater and gas which had collected from a leak exploded.

Suffering from second degree burns of the hands and face, Jimenez was taken to Harbor General Hospital before the firemen arrived. The hospital reports that he is, "doing very well."

NTCIA Meet To Hear Talk On Dope Habit

Teen-age dope traffic will be the subject of an open forum and lecture by Sgt. Bob Cassullo at the May 7th meeting of the North Torrance Civic Improvement association, it was announced recently.

Cassullo, a former Torrance police officer, is a member of the Lennox sheriff's station narcotics detail.

Any adult is welcome to attend the meeting at McMaster Park hall, 174th and Yukon.

Harbor Hospital Gets New Ward

Construction of an addition to the occupational therapy ward at Harbor General Hospital will begin next week, according to Mrs. Carole Kyle, head of the department.

The addition will be used to house occupational therapy activities for younger patients, it was disclosed.

CC Fund Ban Request by Drale Denied

In an effort to cut financial corners, Councilman Nick Drale Tuesday night asked the City Council to turn down the application of the Chamber of Commerce for \$1,250 for advertising for the city for January, February, and March of this year.

Drale stated that the services rendered by the Chamber did not warrant that support. He cited the fact that population signs which surround Torrance have not been changed for ten years.

The motion was seconded by Councilman V. Benstead, but was defeated in a three-to-two vote. Councilman W. Blount's motion to concur with the recommendation to award the money carried.

Lack of a second killed Drale's motion that the city purchase another modern garbage collection truck. Many complaints of poor service have been voiced by citizens recently, it was disclosed.

Parking Meter Report Heard At 8 Tonight

Results of a survey made by the Torrance Parking Authority will be made public this evening at an open meeting of that group by the council members of City Hall, C. J. Rippe, chairman of the Authority, announced this week.

About 75 percent of the questionnaire sent out several months ago have been returned, Rippe said. Recommendations based on this survey will be made at tonight's meeting.

Details of the report, a summation of the replies of merchants, professional men, and land owners throughout Central Torrance, were not available.

Steelworkers Expect Govt. Pay Hike Soon

Columbia Steel's 1400 employees are still working for the federal government, and no action has been taken on Secretary of Commerce Sawyer's statement that he would go over the heads of industry and deal directly with the union on wages.

If Sawyer does go ahead with his plan, local workers can expect to receive the Wage Stabilization Board's recommendation of a 17½-cent hourly increase with several fringe benefits.

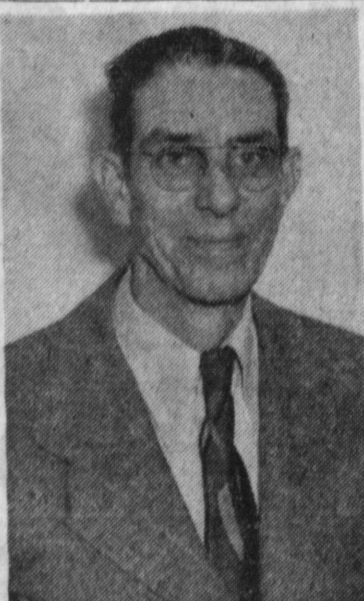
On the other side, members of the steel industry are prepared to seek a court order to restrain any payment of increased wages out of industry funds, a spokesman said.

Day-Lite Saving To Add Extra Hour on Sunday

If you go to church one morning late this Sunday morning, don't blame anyone but yourself, because we're warning you right now to set your clock back that hour Saturday night.

An extra hour is theoretically being added to the day when daylight saving time goes into effect Sunday morning at 2 o'clock all over the west coast.

Barkeepers are also cautioned to prepare to stay on the job an extra hour Saturday night, because they won't stop swabbing the deck until the hour of two has struck for the second time.



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MRS. GRACE WRIGHT



MRS. KATHRYN MATSON



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