

# Water Bill Hiked **Blind Ballot**

Demands that the City of Torrance consolidate all elections were given new impetus this week as new water rates went into effect and the people realized that they had voted at the time of the recent \$2,000,000 water bond issue to practically double their own water bills.

Few of the voters realized that @

they were voting to double water bills when they voted the bonds January 8, 1952, it is charged. This, those sponsoring the consolidation of elections in Torrance say, was due to the lack of pub-Mcity and failure of the city to properly inform the people about the bond program. Only 1957 votes were cast in the election.

Historic Proof Government bodies, including school boards, always want a small vote when they want to Used for Center carry an election. It is easier to control the vote this way, history shows.

The move to consolidate elections, spear-headed county-wide by Supervisor Raymond Darby, started in Torrance at the time of the last school election. In this Cabrillo and Torrance boulerace for three of the seats on the vards will be conducted at school board, fewer voters turned once as a method of relieving out than did at the election two the central Torrance automoyears ago. This, despite the fact bile parking problem, it was that registered voter numbers had revealed to the Press this doubled in the two years.

As it is, the lack of publicity and information about what the (Continued on Page 18)

Protested b Homeowners

## CENTRAL TESTED

### Cabrillo Avenue Street Experiment

Experiments on center street parking on the wide week

The idea of center-street parking is working successfully in many cities with 100-foot or wider thoroughfares, and it has long been urged by the Torrance Press as a possible solution to the downtown parking problem.

**Parallel** Parking A section of Cabrillo will be blocked off along the center line to provide parallel parking in the middle of the avenue. Parallel Park July 22 parking also will be provided at the curb along the test area.

AVALON VILLAGE VOLUME IV

Serving . . .

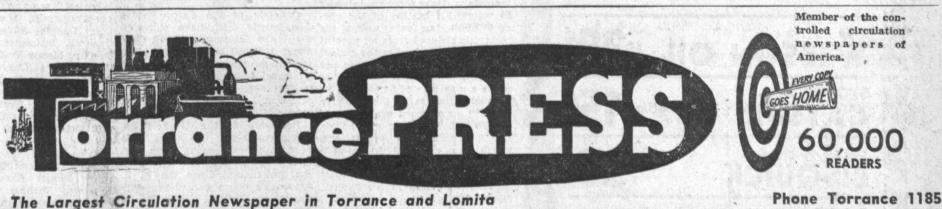
LOMITA

TORRANCE

SHOESTRING

**KEYSTONE** 

HARBOR CITY



TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA - THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1952

#### NUMBER 14

### Which of These Lovelies Will Wear the Crown of Miss Torrance of 1952?



GLAMOROUS ARRAY—The 11 beauties shown above are among those seeking the title of "Miss Torrance" in a judging to be con-ducted this evening at 8 p.m. in Civic Auditorium. Winner will rep-resent the City of Torrance in many civic and social functions during



#### DICTATORSHIP AND PRICE CONTROL (An Editorial)

It is the understanding of this newspaper that tract maps which will provide for thousands of homes are being held up by the Planning Commission while it SEEKS TO FORCE THE WORKING MAN TO BUY HOMES LARGER THAN HE NEEDS and thus price him off the market.

Torrance was founded as an industrial city by Jared Sidney Torrance and his associates under such agreements as required the original manufacturing plants locating here to maintain their plants in the community on a perpetual basis.

So fond of the area were the original industrialists that they built homes for their workers, in order to keep them happy and residing within reasonable distance from the factories

Among such plants are the Pacific Electric Railway general shops, the Lewellen Iron Works, (now Columbia Steel Co.) and Union Tool Co., (now the National Supply Company.)

Torrance has grown as an industrial, commercial and home center.

It continues to grow.

However, a threat to the future growth of the community from an industrial point of view is presented by the arbitrary and dictatorial attitude of the Torrance City Planning Commission in holding up the development of tracts of moderately priced homes needed badly by the working men employed here - and by other working men who are needed in Torrance but who are unavailable because of lack of housing. can Central Committee of Los An-It is the understanding of this newspaper that the geles County will attend the or-Planning Commission has before it several tracts which meet all zoning and building codes and laws, but that held Tuesday, July 22, at 10 a.m. they are being held up IN THE HOPE THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION CAN FORCE THE CITY COUNCIL TO ORDAIN LARGER LOTS, COMPULSORY CONSTRUCTION OF GARAGES UNNEEDED BY MANY, AND LARGER HOMES - priced at more than the average working man can pay, thus requiring higher down payments than they can produce.

Citizens of Pacific Hills are this week up in arms about continued ed creek in that area. The creek, which is a natural

drainage ditch for Palos Verdes central traffic area. hills; has long been the object of complaints from the residents, and 500 additional parking spaces last year the city posted signs needed now will be provided with eiting an ordinance which prohib- this method. its such practices.

However, despite the signs, these operations continue. One tervals. resident stated that there has been a noticeable increase in dumping in recent months. Recent small fires in the dump

have left stern warning that a tremendous fire hazard exists. As the season gets progressively off-street parking facilities are drier, the hazard is increased ten- being studied by the City Parking fold, one Pacific Hills resident Authority. claimed. Many homes are within

offensive dump site.

with the City Council unless the of the needed lots. Each time the day. city takes immediate steps to en- meters are mentioned, the idea is force its ordinance, and eliminate met with preparations for referen- Death was apparently caused

hazard.

If the experiment proves sucdumping in a Torrance City-own- cessful, it will be carried out for the entire length of Cabrillo avenue and Torrance boulevard in the

It is believed that most of the

Cross-walks from the center of the street will be provided at in-

the several division of competition, The move also will tend to slow Mrs. Kemper said. down fast traffic usually present First-prize winners will be on the two boulevards.

**Off Street Parking** Meanwhile, plans for financing

chosen for such attributes as the most freckles. Parking meters have been ruled Man Found Dead

only a few hundred yards of the "out" as a method of financing the parking areas, since they Residents are reportedly plan- would not produce sufficient funds dead in his room at the Park Ho- commodations for two at the fa- The installation will be combined ning to lodge a formal protest to purchase even a small portion tel by the hotel manager last Sun- shionable Vegas resort for the with the regular dinner-business

election if necessary.

Illegal Trash Dumping Arouses Residents

an irritating eye-sore and fire dum petitions to stop them by by a heart attack, reports the Tor- Reid bathing suit. rance Police Dept.

awarded an 8 x 10-inch photograph.

A "creeper" race in which the youngest entrants will vie for the light tonight as 13 Torrance lovelies strut their stuff bespeed title will be the feature of fore a panel of judges in the race to become "Miss Tor- ganization of the committee to be the Avalon-Sepulveda Park Baby rance of 1952" Contest which opens on July 22nd.

The annual beauty contest, this year sponsored by the in the Alexandria Hotel ballroom,

Mrs. Dorothy Kemper, park di- Torrance Area Youth Band, will. rector, said mothers with children be conducted this evening at Civ-3 years old or younger may regis- ic Auditorium at 8 p.m. 3 years old or younger may regis-ter their babies for the contest Sharing the spotlight at the LOCA Chamber

at the Park recreation building. event, which is free to the public, will be the Youth Band, which Registrants will receive baby will present a "pops" concert. food, as will winners in each of Coronation Date

> A panel of three out-of-town judges will name the lucky miss, Monday Nid who will be crowned at a gala coronation ball at the Palos Ver-

the top prize for "Miss Torrance". installation ceremonies slated for election of their chairmen and

sponsoring Youth Band, has an- Lone Pine Inn. nounced that the management of Harry Beckett, 69, was found the Last Frontier has offered ac- of arrangements for the affair winner of tonight's judging. She meeting, it was announced. will also receive a \$50 Rose Marie

heal

The agenda will include the selection of a county chairman, offi-Alex Wysocki will accept the She said contest winners will be des Country Club on August 16th. gavel of president of the Carson cers and committees, adoption of Two full days at the Last Fron- Chamber of Commerce from out- the rules of the county committee, reddest hair, longest lashes and tier Hotel in Las Vegas, Nev., is going president Henry Blythe in and ratification of the district

> James Van Dyke, director of the Monday evening, July 21, at the officers. Frank E. Jorgensen is the pres-

> > ent chairman. Wallace Reynolds is in charge

> > > Work Started

One of Torrance's earliest structures is undergoing a face-lifting this week. Sparkling changes are to be noted in the Pacific Electric **Grand Opening Today** Freight Station at El Prado and Cabrillo Aves. Crews have been busy tearing out the trees that have surrounded the building, and the old wooden loading dock has been removed.

> Old timers report that the arabic - styled building was originally the real estate office of the first subdividers of Torrance, which possibly makes it the first structure in town.

Kenneth Anderson, who is in That's what Mrs. Doris Mark- charge of the local freight depot, variety store. Incorporated with- land of 1608 W. 221st St., got announces that a sprinkler system in the "Miracle Corner" is a fa- when she ran a Torrance Press will be installed and the grounds

> rior of the building is now being sand blasted in preparation for "Because of the large number

center is a distinctive addition to of applicants I got from my small stucco painting. the ever-growing circle of Tor- ad, I was able to select a person A new concrete loading dock will soon be built to replace the who really fills the bill. I'm very pleased," said Mrs. Markland. old wooden one

And the interior will get a face This is the small ad that got lifting, too, Anderson reports Fresh paint and new venetian

blinds will spark the offices of the REFINED LADY to care 2 children ages 7 mos. & 5 yrs. in my hosne, 9 am to 6:30 pm. 5 day week. Phone Torrance 1880-W. depot. The company is considering

plans to refurbish the PE right-And you can get the same results, whether you buy, sell, or of-way between the depot and serve. Just call Torrance 1185 or Western Ave., and Columbia Steel

really effective ad. ing over Torrance Blvd.

In most cases, ALL THE LAWS, state and local, have been complied with; yet the Planning Commission withholds approval on these tracts.

The Planning Commission is not doing its duty to the community in taking this dictatorial attitude, and it is standing in the way of future growth - it is keeping factories from obtaining men by denying these men the homes they can buy.

This is a working man's community, and we must provide the working men with homes within their economic reach. We must furnish a labor market, and homes are vital to this end.

We understand that tracts being arbitrarily held up by the Planning Commission provide for several thousand moderately priced homes.

Also, it is our understanding that in holding up these tracts, the Planning Commission also is delaying plans for nearly 500 homes for the higher income classes - homes to sell at from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Also being held up by failure of the Commission to approve the moderately priced tracts are numerous commercial structures.

All of this would add to the assessed valuation of the City of Torrance, and benefit the business men in increased commercial trade.

Is the Planning Commission going to be allowed to try to force a man who can afford and wants to buy a \$7,000 home at a small down payment to endanger his economic and financial future by making him buy an \$11,000 home at a \$2,200 down payment?

Does the Planning Commission want to engage in "price control" to the detriment of the city?

It is no concern of the Planning Commission what size the house and what the price so long as the tract map and the house plans meet zoning regulations and state and local building codes.

If we expect to make Torrance a large metropolitan center, we must provide homes for the working man. Industrial plants need men. We must be realistic about this. Torrance must build homes so that the factories can get men to operate the plants.

No official body can be allowed to price these men off the market, and deprive the plants of their needed employees.

Torrance is not a Beverly Hills, nor a Bel-Air. Torrance is a fine and happy community of moderate income families.

Let us continue to build homes these moderate income families can afford to buy.

Let the Planning Commission end its role of "price control" and do its duty.

A Carlo March &

HiegaDdumping in a Torrance City-owned creek in Pacific Hills continues to create FIRE HAZARDboth a fire hazard and an eversore for residents of that area. Despite signs warning against dumping ubbish and garbage many persons continue to haul car and trailer loads of refuse to the creek.

NO DUMPING BURBISH. TORBANCE LICE DEPT. RDANCE. NO.7.

Many thousands of persons are expected to throng the new Jim Dandy Market today and through-out the entire week-end during the grand opening celebration of the store, located on the "Miracle Corner", Crenshaw and Torrance Blvds. The new super-market will have as its companion stores in adjoining buildings, a pharmacy, dry cleaners and launderette, and a mous Sugar 'n Spice Bakery. This classified ad seeking a woman to completely landscaped. The exteoutstanding "one-stop" shopping care for her two children.

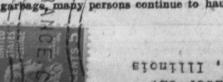
rance businesses.

The ultra-modern market offers the most up-to-the-minute service such wonderful results for Mrs. and features the latest in fixtures Markland:

and displays. Clyde Price, supervisor of Jim Dandy Markets, points out that shopping in the new store is made especially comfortable and con-

(Continued on Page 18)

venient by such features as soft 1186 and a courteous classified ad is reportedly planning to take music piped through the store, girl will assist you in writing a steps to beautify the trestle cross-



Ronnouth, Illinonnou P. O. Drawer 127 0. J. Foreman



To Beautify Other officers' to be seated Monday include Chet Smith, first vice-

Los Angeles. Attending from the 68th Assembly district are Frank S. Selover, of Torrance; Mrs. Jean W. Haley, Clifton A. Hix and Barbara R. Bell, of San Pedro; Lloyd A. Menveg, Stephen M. Cope and Dwayne

O. Larson, of Wilmington; all were

elected to the committee at the

June 3 state primary election.