

TORRANCE BOULEVARD REZONING ISSUE POSTPONED TO APRIL 14

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UNDESIGNED STOP: Bruce W. Lytle, 38, swung his Greyhound bus over the curb narrowly missing the corner residence, when a collision between his bus and a car driven by Dorothy White, 38, became inevitable. One of the sixteen passengers received a leg injury. None of the three children in the White car were hurt though the car struck the rear end of the bus. The accident occurred at 220th and Arlington early Wednesday morning.

BUILDER PROMISES RELIEF FOR FLOODED HOME TRACT

City Drainage Plan Accepted

Drainage troubles and reasonable building complaints in a North Torrance tract will be taken care of, according to promises made this week by the contractor, Louis Laramore, in an interview with City Manager George Stevens.

The contractor is willing to carry out the drainage recommendations made by the City Engineering Department, according to a report made to the Council by Stevens.

Consent Needed
Before Laramore can go ahead with these plans, he must receive the full consent of all the residents affected. Tentative agreement has been received from spokesmen for the homeowners.

The plan calls for the construction of swales, which are shallow depressions to carry off the water. It is considered that this move will take adequate care of the drainage problem.

Tract
The tract involved is located between Crenshaw and Ermanita bordered by 182nd street and 185th street. One hundred residents of this tract recently brought their grievances in form of a petition to the City Council. These, as well as complaints from other areas, brought on a state investigation of local building practices.

Swales are to be installed from 182nd street to 185th street on Glenburn, Falda, and Elgar, according to City Engineer Ronald Bishop.



'TAINT FUNNY!': Mr. and Mrs. Rector Jones, 18410 S. Delia avenue, North Torrance, have their own private swimming pool. Saturday's rain caused their whole home to be flooded. The water came in the back door and went out the front door. Jones and other residents in the tract brought their grievances to the attention of the City Council.

NEW BUILDING DEPARTMENT POST CREATED

The City Council agreed unanimously this week to place a qualified engineer or architect in full charge of the Building Department. This step was taken Tuesday night in order to run the Building Department on an efficient basis and avoid a repetition of the building scandal which flared into the open in recent weeks.

City Manager George Stevens stated that he would take immediate steps to hold a civil service examination for this post.

Following a motion by Councilman Nickolas Dralle for the establishment of such a post, Stevens stated that he had already planned to make such a recommendation to the Council. He thereupon made the recommendation.

Woman Has Hot Idea For Range

Here's a real hot one this week. Mrs. E. L. Korff of 903 Portola, sold her AP gas range right off the bat by placing a small 75c ad in the Torrance Press classified section. Her ad read:

FOR SALE—AP gas range. In good condition. 903 Portola FA. 8-0112

Mrs. Korff received dozens of calls and sold her range on the first call. For sizzling results, place an ad in the Torrance Press classified section. Just call us at FA 8-2345.

PLANNERS PROTEST REZONING

Anticipating a move by Council to rezone Torrance boulevard for commercial use, Beverly B. Smith, president of the Planning Commission, Tuesday night lodged a strong protest against a blanket rezoning of the area. Although 22 of the 30 property owners involved have petitioned the city to make the zone change, the city planners are continuing to push their fight against the change.

In acting on Smith's letter, the City Council set a third and final hearing on the issue for April 14.

In a letter to the Council, Smith emphasized the reasons why the Planning Commission recently denied the petition to rezone Torrance boulevard from Madrid avenue to Crenshaw boulevard.

Reversal
Smith stated in his letter that he has been "told" privately that the Council would reverse the planners on the matter. The Planning Commission last week voted 5-4 for denial of the rezoning petition, despite the fact that the majority of the property owners involved approved the zone change.

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COUNCIL CANDIDATES STATE VIEWS ON DOG VACCINATION ISSUE

Candidates running for City Council this week aired their views on a compulsory anti-rabies vaccination ordinance for dogs in interviews with the Torrance Press.

Such an ordinance is now being drafted in Los Angeles and will be voted on shortly by the Los Angeles City Council.

Rabies is always fatal once the symptoms appear. Animals and humans affected by it die a most agonizing death. Pasteur treatment, which itself is very painful, is the only preventive measure which can be applied in suspected cases.

The figures for Torrance are as follows for the last ten years: one human death; 15 dog deaths; 41 Pasteur treatments; and 1668 dog bites and the accompanying fear of possible infection.

When asked "What do you think of a compulsory vaccination ordinance for Torrance?" City Council candidates gave the following answers.

WILLIS BLOUNT: "We won't act right away, but we'll probably kick it around and hear both sides. We have no issue until L. A. acts. Such an ordinance would not afford effective protection, for instance, if we had it and L. A. didn't."

FRANK BURK: "It's a justifiable thing but there are many more major issues. There's no reason to make this a monstrous issue. There are more active, deadly weapons

being used every day, like cars and death on the highways."

BOB EVANS: "Off-hand I'm 100% against compulsory vaccination. It's a violation of our rights to make any medication, or anything else, for that matter, compulsory."

ALVAN HILL: "I haven't studied the matter enough and have no opinion on it at present. I think it's up to the people."

AL ISEN: "Inoculation of animals as a rabies preventative is a matter that requires much study and consideration and (Continued on Page 6)

Chase's Petition Signed By Three

Three local residents signed the nominating petition of L. A. County Supervisor Burton W. Chase who filed his petition for re-election Monday, March 22. Signatories included Sam Levy, Mrs. Ella Schwartz, and Ben Haggott, it was disclosed.

YOUTH BAND TO SPONSOR ANNUAL BEAUTY CONTEST

Following the tradition established two years ago, the Torrance Area Youth Band will sponsor the "Third Annual Miss Torrance Beauty Pageant" to be held Friday night, July 30, in the Torrance civic auditorium, it was announced this week.

This contest is not to be confused with the Popularity Contest planned by the Junior and Senior Chambers of Commerce. That contest will be held in conjunction with the Torrance county fair sometime in August.

Judging
Girls will be judged strictly on the merits of their figure, poise, face, voice, and charm, in (Continued on Page 9)

Press To Give Full Election News Coverage

This newspaper will remain neutral in the present political campaign for the various municipal offices.

No personal endorsement for any of the candidates will be made. The number of well-qualified candidates who are in this race would make such a choice difficult.

We will strive to be as fair and impartial as is humanly possible in reporting the news. We will keep voters informed on all the issues to enable them to make the best decisions possible both in regard to the bond issues as well as the candidates.

Let's Vote For A Swimming Pool

By Councilman Victor Benstead, Guest Editor

(In order to air our civic needs, the Torrance Press is running a series of weekly editorials written by people of the community. Editorials may be submitted by anyone. All manuscripts become the property of the Torrance Press. We welcome ideas on any subject, controversial or otherwise. Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the publishers.)

Torrance has been growing at a phenomenal rate: population in 1940 was 9950; in 1950, it was 22,201; in 1952, it was 31,834; and the last Special Census in 1953 showed Torrance to have a population of 44,914. All of this tremendous growth has gone on without any real expansion of the park and recreation facilities. While play space has been growing less, the numbers of youngsters looking for a place to play has increased.

Your City Council is anxious to do something to provide for the happiness of our children, as a member of that council I ask you to vote YES on the recreation bond issues. Unless the voters support these two bond issues, the hands of the City government are tied. You must vote to spend the money for recreation or you won't have any.

We can afford to build one centrally located swimming pool that will serve all areas in the City equally. If we get the pool, there will not only be recreational swimming for all; but there will be swimming and life saving classes for the children and adults who are interested. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, YWCA, YMCA, etc., will all be able to add the healthful sport of swimming to their programs.

The City is also anxious to work out an agreement with the Torrance Unified School District so that they can use the pool for the High School and Elementary School Physical Education programs. A swimming pool has been needed in the City of Torrance for many years, and this is the time when you voters will be given an opportunity to build a pool that you can use in your time. The amount of the Swimming Pool Bond is \$250,000.

The \$150,000 Bond Issue for improvement of recreation facilities in the City of Torrance has been planned so that all the areas in Torrance will benefit from it. Included in planned expenditures (Continued on Page 7)

Sunday Last Day To Register For School Election

SCHOOL ELECTION 4 MORE DAYS TO REGISTER

In order to participate in the forthcoming school board elections voters who have not yet registered must do so by March 28, according to Warren W. Hamilton, director of special services.

Residents may register with the nearest registrar of voters or at the city hall. Two candidates have filed intention to run in the May 21 election so far. They are Bill (Continued on Page 6)

FATHER OF 2 DIES AS CAR RAMS TREE

The father of two small children was killed and another passenger was critically injured when their car rammed into a tree along Torrance blvd. west of Denker ave. about 4 a.m. Monday morning.

Dead is Barney Williams, 32, of 808 Cranbrook ave. In Harbor General Hospital with head injuries and listed as critical (Continued on Page 6)

Beauty for Beauty's Sake



START OF A TRADITION: The Torrance Area Youth Band will continue to sponsor the Miss Torrance Beauty Pageant this year as it has the last two years. Contestants will be judged strictly on their looks as before. Introducing the 1954 Beauty Pageant and giving a preview of things to come are Shirley White (Miss Torrance of 1952), and Sandra Constance (Miss Torrance of 1953).

Council Candidates Reply...

In an open letter published by this newspaper two weeks ago, the Torrance Press invited candidates running for City Council to state their position in regard to the local building scandal. Replies received from Willis Blount, Frank Burk, Albert Isen, and Mrs. Herma Tillim were published last week. Replies from the following three candidates did not arrive in time for last week's edition and are being made available at this time:

ROBERT F. EVANS

I regret not getting my reply to your open letter in before now, but compiling the facts I needed has been slow. However, I feel at this time that definite changes for the better will be made in our city Building Department regardless of the outcome of this investigation.

Should these changes not take place, I can assure the people of our city that as soon as I am elected City Councilman in Torrance these changes will be made.

I plan to encourage a course of action along preventative lines pertaining to this matter and others such as vice, delinquency, fire, floods, disaster of all sorts, unnecessary taxes, traffic problems, etc., as it is always less costly to prevent these things than it is to correct them.

The people of our City depend on me when elected, to see to it that another situation of this sort will not happen while I am in office. Very truly yours, (signed) Robert F. Evans

ALVAN K. HILL

The PRESS recently addressed an open letter to the candidates for City Council relative to certain building conditions in North Torrance.

As a builder myself, I find it a little difficult to answer your question as to what remedies I would suggest to prevent such incidents from recurring in the future. It is impossible, at this time, to determine who is to blame.

The State has been investigating for weeks, and still is, and as near as I can ascertain the facts aren't all in yet.

I have known contractors who do more than the minimum standards required by the Building Code—and I've known those who do ONLY what is required.

The contracting corporation concerned has a good reputation, and so have the City's inspectors. Until ALL the facts are in, we don't know where to place the blame, and I certainly don't want to falsely accuse either side.

Very truly yours, (signed) Alvan K. Hill

JACK E. WHITE

This is in answer to your editorial appearing in the Torrance Press, March 11, 1954 entitled, "An Open Letter."

I can start by saying the minutes of the City Council meeting of November 10, 1953 will show that I appeared before the City Council on that date as a spokesman for the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, incorporated representing the home owners of another tract that the ones most recently mentioned. The statements I made and the charges generated at that meeting were, to the best of my knowledge, the first time discrepancies of such magnitude were brought before the public. It was the Thursday edition following, that the name "Krapky Kottages" was coined in your newspaper.

The above facts and my recent statement to the newspapers of Torrance certainly should indicate my feeling toward the issue in question.

I feel that the city officials, in asking the State Housing (Continued on Page 7)