

# CITY TO HOLD ELECTION THIS TUESDAY APRIL 13

## TORRANCE PRESS

Conveniently Located at 1406 Cravens Avenue — Phone FAirfax 8-2345

VOLUME V

THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 1954 — TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

119

NUMBER 53

## Shidler Resigns; Dr. Bay Named To School Board

### School Election Set For May 21

Judge John Shidler, president of the Board of Education, announced his resignation to a surprised School Board Tuesday night. The vacancy was filled that same evening with the appointment of Dr. Joseph P. Bay to serve out Shidler's unfinished term which expires May 21.

"My reasons for resigning are several," Shidler said in a statement to the press. "My court demands are increasing with the vast population growth and my spare time is becoming more and more limited."

"There are many capable persons to do the work. Is it democratic for one person to hold more than one elective office? I think not."

"My resignation is not the result of dissatisfaction with the existing board and it is with reluctance that I resign, as I have enjoyed learning about public education and its problems. To meet these problems I believe we have a capable, forward-looking, and under-

(Continued on Page 24)

### Meet the Candidates Tonight

Tonight's the night to meet the candidates! Torrance voters will have a chance to see and hear the individuals running for the City Council and other municipal offices at a "Meet the Candidates" rally to be held in the Civic Auditorium, corner Cravens and El Prado starting at 7:30 p.m. It was announced.

Each of the candidates will state his platform in a five-min-

(Continued on Page 24)

### 4 VITAL BOND ISSUES FACE VOTERS TUES.

Torrance voters will decide the fate of four vital bond issues this coming Tuesday, April 13. The outcome will have a far-reaching effect on the future development of this city.

The four bond propositions call for 1) a new civic center and police station, 2) new and expanded fire department facilities, 3) the development of parks and recreation facilities; and 4) the construction of a swimming pool and bath house.

#### Cost

The maximum annual cost of these bonds to a family owning a home assessed at \$2500 will be \$3 for the first year. This means that the average family will pay less than one cent per day for the vital facilities proposed, ac-

(Continued on Page 22)

### Vote Yes On Bonds

Editorial

Upon careful consideration of the four bond issues which will confront the people of Torrance in Tuesday's municipal election, the Torrance Press urges a YES vote on all four.

This recommendation is being made after a thorough study of each of the bond proposals.

Everybody knows that our city has doubled its population in the last four years. Our city officials estimate that Torrance will again double during the next four years, which will bring our population to almost 100,000 residents.

There can be no doubt that a desperate need exists for expanded facilities to serve this fast-growing city. For this reason, we urge you to support the bond measures.

Briefly, the four bond proposals are:  
Proposition No. 1: \$700,000 for a new Civic Center. This measure provides for a new city hall and police station. At the present time our existing facilities are badly overcrowded.

Proposition No. 2: \$300,000 for a new fire station. Larger and more convenient quarters in a more accessible location is an immediate need to safeguard our homes.

Proposition No. 3: \$150,000 for parks and recreation facilities. We must furnish additional recreational facilities now or suffer serious consequences later.

Proposition No. 4: \$250,000 for swimming pool. Last

(Continued on Page 24)



### Moms Picket School Board; Want Busses

Dissatisfied Shady Nook mothers picketed the Torrance Unified School District Tuesday morning in order to get school bus service for their children.

The mothers, whose request for school busses was denied at a recent meeting of the Board of Education, appeared before the Board again Tuesday night to demand compliance with their request.

The Shady Nook area lies in the triangle between Sepulveda boulevard, Western avenue and 228th street.

Request Denied  
As at the previous hearing, the Board denied the request for bus service on the grounds

that no hardship case exists and that every home lies within the one-mile radius of school or 1.25 mile walking distance established by law.

No exception can be made for the Shady Nook area, the Board maintained. If the minimum distance for bus service were changed, other sections of the city would also become eligible for bus service. This would require an additional cost of \$146,000 through the third grade or \$300,000 through the eighth grade.

After first explaining the reasons why the Board could not go along with the parents' requests, Judge John Shidler, Board president, turned right

around and advised the parents on how to put pressure on the Board, much to the surprise of the other Board members.

#### One or the Other

While saying that continued efforts on their part might get them their busses, Shidler did make clear, however, that the busses would be purchased at the expense of the rest of the school program. If money is channeled towards transportation, the schools cannot continue their building program, hire more teachers, and eliminate the double sessions, Shidler said.

The parents indicated they could continue their campaign,

## 6 CANDIDATES VIE FOR 2 COUNCIL SEATS



WILLYS G. BLOUNT

STATEMENT: "As the final days of the campaign draw near I wish to thank my many friends and supporters for their efforts in my behalf. I stand on my record and submit myself to the voters of Torrance on the basis of that record. Remember that there is no substitute for experience."

ADDRESS: 1444 El Prado.  
AGE: 37 years old.

OFFICE: City Council (Incumbent).

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE: Eight years.

BIRTHPLACE: Texas.

EDUCATION: High school; two years at Texas A&M; now working on LL.D. at Pacific Coast University of Law.

FAMILY: Margaret (wife); three children.

OCCUPATION: Salesman for Kirkhill Rubber Co.

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: U. S. Navy.

CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS: Rotary Club, Masonic Lodge.



FRANCIS (FRANK) BURK

STATEMENT: "It is now time to unite the needs of property owners, equally with the problems of merchants and industry: 1) recreation centers for our youth; 2) improved transportation to bring business' outlying areas to downtown Torrance; 3) adequate street lighting in residential areas. Let your problems be heard through me."

ADDRESS: 5104 Zakon Road.  
AGE: 34 years old.

OFFICE: City Council.

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE: Five and one-half years.

BIRTHPLACE: Santa Monica.

EDUCATION: High school; Polytechnic Evening School; Diesel engineering; ICS Law study.

FAMILY: Laura Sue (wife); three children.

OCCUPATION: Motor coach operator, truck driver, furniture sales and appraising.

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Auto garage operator and owner; Aircraft field and flight inspector; photostat and blueprint operator; cab driver.

CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS: Elks, 1378; American Legion, South Bay; Boy Scouts, committment; P.T.A.



ROBERT F. EVANS

STATEMENT: "To be consistent with past statements, I am going to stand strictly on the basis of my past and present performance rather than a long list of vague promises. To voice my opinion on some specific issues, I am highly in favor of the new civic center and I feel that failure on our part as the voting public to support the bond issue would be a grave error and a very costly one in dollars and cents. Needless to say I am wholeheartedly for the recreation, pool, and fire department bond issues as well."

ADDRESS: 5107 Sharynne Lane.  
AGE: 39 years old.

OFFICE: City Council.

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE: Four and one-half years.

BIRTHPLACE: Sacramento, California.

EDUCATION: Two and one-half years at Curtis Wright Tech. Institute of Aeronautics.

FAMILY: Bonnie (wife); three children.

OCCUPATION: Aircraft worker at Douglas Torrance plant.



ALVAN K. HILL

STATEMENT: "I have served you to the best of my ability for the past five years as one of your planning commissioners. I will continue to serve you with the best that is in me if elected to the City Council on April 13."

ADDRESS: 1645 Greenwood.  
AGE: 41 years old.

OFFICE: City Council.

PLACE OF BIRTH: Kansas.

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE: 15 years.

EDUCATION: High school.

FAMILY: Thelma (wife).

OCCUPATION: Builder.

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Police officer, carpenter, and builder.

CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS: Planning Commission (5 years); past governor of Torrance Moose Lodge.

#### BOY, 9, KILLED

Nine-year-old Terry Shock, of 21235 Grace street, was killed when his bicycle swerved against a passing trailer truck Thursday. It was reported.

The boy, who suffered fatal injuries, died at Harbor General Hospital shortly after the accident.



ALBERT ISEN

STATEMENT: "Torrance is my town. I have lived here for most of my life and have watched it grow to its present size and population. I believe that I have something constructive to offer and in the event of my election, I will serve you on the City Council with courtesy, consideration, and fairness."

ADDRESS: 1504 Engracia avenue.  
AGE: 46 years old.

OFFICE: City Council.

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE: since 1913.

BIRTHPLACE: Los Angeles.

EDUCATION: Torrance Elementary School, Torrance High School (first to complete all of primary and secondary schooling in Torrance); University of Southern California.

FAMILY: Sara (wife); daughter.

OCCUPATION: Attorney at law.

CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS: Past president of Torrance Lions Club; member of Elks Lodge and Torrance Moose;

Scottish Rite Mason and Shriner.



MRS. HERMA O. TILLM

STATEMENT: "We have to make the government of Torrance grow up to the population of Torrance. I think we should have recreation for everyone, better transportation, and a balance between housing and industry. Let's keep Torrance the City of Opportunity. I am in a position to represent all of the people of Torrance as I am not supported by any pressure groups."

ADDRESS: 16914 Osage street.  
AGE: 54 years old.

OFFICE: City Council.

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE: Three years.

BIRTHPLACE: Kent, Washington.

FAMILY: One daughter.

OCCUPATION: Placement Service, Torrance Personnel Agency (owner and operator).

CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS: Past president Santa Barbara Toastmistress Club; auditor, National Business and Professional Women's Club of Torrance; treasurer, North Torrance Civic Improvement Association; board member of South Shore Employment Agency Owners association.



JACK E. WHITE

STATEMENT: "As the City Council election draws near, I offer no political promises; just a sincere interest in Torrance and its problems. I trust the judgment of the voters to make their choice at the polls."

ADDRESS: 4308 West 178th place.  
AGE: 38 years old.

OFFICE: City Council.

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE: seven years.

BIRTHPLACE: Kansas City, Missouri.

EDUCATION: Lathrop Technical; University of Missouri, extension courses.

FAMILY: Emy (wife).

OCCUPATION: Tool engineer, Northrop Aircraft.

FORMER OCCUPATIONS: Liaison engineer, Hughes Aircraft; North American Aircraft; maintenance engineer, Golden State company.

CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS: International Association of Machinists, steward; North Torrance Civic Improvement Association, president two terms, safety, health and welfare chairman, two terms; American Society of Tool Engineers, senior member.

### Robt. Evans Quits Race

The leadership of Torrance is at stake when voters go to the polls this coming Tuesday, April 13. They will elect two men to the City Council from among the seven candidates running for that office.

Running for the City Council office are: Willys G. Blount, Francis (Frank) W. Burk, Robert F. Evans, Alvan K. Hill, Albert Isen, Mrs. Herma O. Tillm, and Jack E. White.

Voters are urged to go to the polls which will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

BULLETIN: Robert Evans, candidate for City Council, announced that he was withdrawing from the councilmanic race as this newspaper went to press.

Because of the late date of his withdrawal, Evans' name will still appear on the ballot.

The two council posts being contested are those now occupied by Councilmen Willys G. Blount and Harvey Spelman, Jr. Spelman is not seeking another term in office. Councilmen are elected for a term of four years.

#### Other Offices

Two other offices are to be considered at this election. Mrs. Harriet V. Leech is seeking re-election as City Treasurer. She is opposed by Mrs. Arene E. Dean.

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett is likewise seeking re-election. Bartlett, who has served in this capacity for 32 years, is running unopposed.

A heavy turn-out is expected during this election. A total

(Continued on Page 8)

## Townwide Pre-Easter Sale This Week-End