

Torrance Needs New Civic Center

'Yes' Vote Urged

By RALPH R. GOMPERTZ, Assistant Editor
"The facts, just the facts," is what city officials and civic leaders start citing to convince Torrance residents that a new civic center is a dire necessity.

Torrance is just bustin' out all over and the present civic center is just a pipsqueak of a thing, according to the general consensus of opinion around city hall, and city officials will pull out figures and charts to prove it.

Those facts and figures compiled by City Manager George Stevens, are quite persuasive and pack a powerful wallop.

In view of the election set for October 19, here's how those facts stack up.

Torrance has outgrown its present facilities. The city hall and police station, constructed in 1936 to serve a population of 30,000 are now completely inadequate.

Way Out of Line

Torrance, with its present estimated population of 52,000, has a city hall which is only one-third the size of Inglewood's which city is about equal in population to Torrance. Torrance's police department is about one-fourth the size of Inglewood's.

Not only are Torrance's facilities thoroughly inadequate under present conditions, but they do not even start taking into account the tremendous growth still anticipated.

By next year, Torrance is expected to have a population of 62,000. By 1960 it is expected to reach 125,000 to 150,000.

Cost to Residents

While these are imposing figures, the cost per homeowner is very small. The city hall and police station (which are one package) will cost the average homeowner \$1.25 per year for the first year, decreasing thereafter. That sum is based on homes costing \$10,000 to \$12,000 and which are assessed at \$2,500. The swimming pool would cost each homeowner 50 cents.

The two bond issues to-

gether would amount to \$1.75 per year, which is far less than is spent for just one evening's entertainment.

The \$1.25 and 50 cents figures are based on a thirty-year bond issue.

The proposed site for the intended civic center is located on the north side of Torrance boulevard between Maple and Madonna, which constitutes the city's central location.

Fire Dep't To Check Incinerators

In conjunction with "National Fire Prevention Week," October 3-9, the Torrance Fire Department will conduct an inspection of all incinerators within the City of Torrance.

The various engine companies will call on each of the residences within their respective districts. On this call a card will be left as a reminder of the legal burning hours.

Incinerators will be checked as to type, location, and condition. Where necessary, suggestions will be given as to the best means of correcting existing violations.

It is hoped that by this means the number of fires caused by faulty, illegal, or improperly located incinerators can be eliminated.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Burns, of 926 Foothill Ave., Torrance, announce the birth of a son, Thomas Patrick, weighing 8 pounds and 6 1/2 ounces.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Regan, of 2338 West 239th St., announce the birth of a son, Joseph Curtis, weighing 8 pounds and 11 ounces.

No. Torrance Group To Discuss Civic Issues

The North Torrance Civic Improvement Association will hold its installation of officers next Wednesday evening, October 6, at 8 p.m. in McMaster Hall. The hall is located on 174th street just west of Yukon avenue.

Principal speaker at the meeting will be Torrance City Manager, George Stevens, who will discuss the proposals of building a large outdoor swimming pool, and the erection of a new Civic Center building to house the city offices. These two issues have been outstanding civic subjects, and will appear on the ballot for a special election to be held October 19.

Some of the questions that will undoubtedly be asked at the meeting will center about the controversy as to why citizens were not asked to vote for either an indoor or an outdoor pool, and what arrangements are being made for the disposal of the present City Hall.

Muri Reeves will be installed

as president of the north city group, and other officers will be Jack White, vice-president; Mrs. Joseph Prange, secretary; Mrs. W. Throop, treasurer; Clint Beeton, who is outgoing president, will be the new auditor; and John and Claire Crain publicity chairman and co-chairman.

Others are Mrs. Charles Leichtweiss, ways and means; I. Hunter, membership; Mrs. Herma Tillim, parliamentarian; Mrs. C. M. Blake, safety chairman; Everett Carlstrom, organizational representative; and Mrs. Enid Runstead, chairman of education.

Tri-City Democrats To Meet

The Tri-City Democratic Club of Torrance, Lomita, and Harbor City will meet at 253rd and Bellefonte, Harbor City on October 4 at 9 o'clock. Plans for the reopening of Democratic Headquarters at 1405 Sartori in Torrance on October 8, at which time Congressman Cecil R. King is scheduled to appear, will be the main topic of business.

Also, the club will take part in a gigantic district-wide Democratic rally where all Democratic state-wide candidates will appear. This rally is scheduled for October 19. All interested Democrats wishing to take part are invited to attend this meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Haskell M. Moore, of 1503 W. 204th St., announce the birth of a daughter, Cheryl Ann, weighing 5 pounds and 11 ounces.

Mr. and Mrs. George Sobodos, of 2403 Hawkins, announce the birth of a son, Steven Charles, weighing 9 pounds and 14 ounces.

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