

City Council Agrees to Annex El Nido Territory

PLAN TO CIRCULATE PETITIONS IN 3 WEEKS

A four-man council Tuesday night indicated informally that they are in favor of annexing El Nido to the city of Torrance. Proceedings to initiate the annexation move were given the green light.



J. A. EBBINGHOUSE
... new president

Ebbinghouse Will Head Local C of C

John A. Ebbinghouse, manager of the American Rock Wool corporation plant in Torrance was elected president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce at the regular board meeting, Monday afternoon, January 7.

Other officers selected at the same meeting were: A. E. Thompson, manager, Torrance refinery General Petroleum corp., first vice-president; Arthur O. Otsea, second vice-president, vice-president and manager of the Torrance branch California bank; R. S. Pyle, treasurer, manager Torrance office Pacific Telephone and Telegraph co.

Also elected to serve as a director for a three year term was O. R. Trueblood, manager, McMahan's furniture.

Tom Watson was re-elected as manager. These officers will be officially installed at the annual banquet of the Chamber to be held Tuesday night February 23, in the Civic Auditorium.

Ebbinghouse succeeds Paul D. Loranger who has served for two years as president of the Chamber and was named "Citizen of the Year" for 1954.

Loranger was officially thanked for his services as president for two years by the board on a motion by Milton A. Hunter, seconded by Arthur O. Otsea.

SHE JUST LOVES US

Late Bulletin: "I like your paper best of all," Mrs. Verna Holt, 2531 1/2 Cypress, exclaimed as this paper went to press. "I'd rather read it, and I really do get better results. I've received so many calls, I need no more baby sitting jobs."

Mrs. Holt placed the following ad in the Torrance Press:

IRONING done in my home. \$1 hour. Day time baby sitting. DA. 8-3090

Don't delay, call today. FA. 8-2345, and place your ad.



AN EYE-FUL . . . Mrs. Lucille Carroll, 22, of 2207 1/2 S. Normandie, suffered cuts on the face and left cheek, a black eye, and scalp abrasions following a beating administered by her estranged husband, William Carroll, 24, 1254 W. 254th st., Harbor City. Argument ensued over possession of the family car. Carroll must answer charges of assault and battery.—Press Photo

The area involved is that located north of 190th st. and west of Hawthorne ave.

Homeowners must now circulate petitions requesting annexation. These petitions must be signed by 25 per cent of the homeowners living in the area to be annexed, according to City Attorney James Hall.

Petitions will probably be circulated in about three weeks. Thereupon an election must be held and 51 per cent of the voters in the area must approve the annexation.

Members of the El Nido Civic Association and the North Torrance Civic Improvement Association addressed the council speaking in favor of annexation.

Jack Kelley, chairman of the annexation move, listed El Nido's assets, mentioning the following:

- 1) Residents rebuilt their own water system without outside help; the system is equal to any system or community its size.
- 2) Residents installed 12 fire plugs giving them more than adequate fire protection.
- 3) Residents installed their own sewer system.
- 4) Street lights were installed.

Edward Nobbe, vice-president of the North Torrance civic organization, praised the El Nido residents for their civic pride and community spirit, stating that such individuals would be an asset to this community.

Waste Paper Firm to Face Trial

Charged with six counts of violating city ordinances, officials of the Torrance Metal Products Co. have been scheduled to appear for trial in South Bay Municipal Court, Tuesday, January 24.

Sol Burns and Charles Pavliagian of the Torrance Metal Products Co. and Torrance Paper Stock Co., 1030 Engracia, have been charged with the following six alleged violations:

- 1) Failure to provide a building for storing large quantities of waste paper and rags and failure to provide an automatic sprinkler system.
- 2) Failure to properly separate the picking room from the office area.
- 3) Failure to take out a permit for storage and handling of combustible fibres in quantities in excess of 100 cubic feet.
- 4) Failure to provide suitable vaults or metal-lined receptacles or bins in which all loose combustible waste materials to be stored at the end of each day.
- 5) Failure to maintain orderly storage within the present structure so as not to endanger exit from the building and failure to provide orderly storage in open areas so as not to constitute hazards to the adjacent buildings on the property.
- 6) Failure to secure a permit for use of premises as salvage yard.

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1406 Cravens Ave., FA. 8-2345

POLICE RAID \$4000-A-DAY BOOKIE JOINT



COZY LITTLE SET-UP . . . This is what Torrance detectives and Sheriff's deputies found when they raided a home at 3718 W. 187th st., where Mrs. Joan E. Yarbrough, 41, of Hawthorne, was operating as a bookie. She rented a room at the above address for "phone solicitations." Note blanket under phone to deaden its ring.—Press Photo.

thorne, was operating as a bookie. She rented a room at the above address for "phone solicitations." Note blanket under phone to deaden its ring.—Press Photo.

Two Phones, Calls Come Fast, Heavy

Turned over to sheriff's deputies and booked on four counts of bookmaking last Thursday was Joan Elizabeth Yarbrough, 41, of 5044 West 133rd street, after being arrested at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Howell, of 3718 West 187th street.

Mrs. Yarbrough had allegedly been carrying on her activities from the North Torrance location since the end of November, taking in an estimated \$144,000.

Coordinating their efforts in the raid with those of the sheriff's department were Captain Ernie Ashton and Sgt. Ted Morris of the Torrance Police Department.

No action was taken against the Howells. Mrs. Howell stated that she had received a call from a woman toward the latter part of November stating that she was a phone solicitor and needed a room in a private home for her activities. The only condition, she stated, was that she would not be disturbed.

Mrs. Yarbrough agreed to pay \$5 a week for use of the room during the day as well as paying for the phone bill.

Howell did not know that his (Turn to Page 6)



MRS. JOAN ELIZABETH YARBROUGH
... a \$4000 a day business turns sour

COUNCIL BRIEFS

DUMPING FINE: Raymond L. Rumsey, 23, of 18444 Regina, was fined \$50 or 10 days in jail for dumping trash at 186th st. and Regina. Rumsey agreed to pay the fine. He was sentenced by Judge Otto Willett, according to Torrance detectives.

PARKING LOT: Plans for modernizing the El Prado-Cravens parking lot will be studied by the council. Councilmen were unanimously opposed to removal of any of the trees as suggested in the first blueprint.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Elvin Schoonover, David Figueroa, and Beverly Smith were reappointed to the Planning Commission by Mayor Isen. Isen asked the commission to make a recommendation for commission chairman and submit this to the council.

COUNCIL MEETINGS: The council will consider changing all council meetings to 5 p.m. The matter will be discussed Tuesday. Councilmen were apparently in favor of the move. Recommendation was made by Councilman Mervin Schwab.

ENTRANCE: Councilman Mervin Schwab recommended that action be initiated to widen and beautify the east entrance to Torrance (from Western ave.) Pacific Electric will be contacted.

CHARTER AMENDMENTS: The council recommended the following charter amendments to be placed before the voters in April. The council will vote on these resolutions this coming Tuesday: 1) \$100 salary for councilmen; 2) Placing assistant city attorney under civil service; 3) Raising maximum expenditure allowable without going to bid from \$1000 to \$2000; 4) Requiring issues (Turn to Page 6)

EDITORIAL

Let's Take a Closer Look

Should City Council and School Board elections be held at the same time? The City Council will decide next week whether this matter should be placed before the voters or dropped altogether.

We are not so much concerned with the merits or faults of consolidation as we are with certain practices sanctioned by Superintendent J. H. Hull.

First, we take issue with the secret meetings held by the School Board prior to their public board meetings. These meetings violate California law and democratic practices. Even if these meetings are harmless, the fact that they are held casts doubt. Public matters, except for personnel matters, should be discussed and decided in public.

Second, we believe that board members should show more critical attitudes toward school issues. We do not advocate controversy. But we do believe that there should be a healthy cross-current of thought and opinion among public officials elected to analyze and evaluate public issues.

Third, we believe that the appointment of board members to fill out the unexpired terms of others who have resigned prior to an election is not a healthy situation. Incumbents are virtually always re-elected and by stacking the elections with incumbents there is little chance for a true cross section of independent ideas in our educational program.

We believe that correction of these three points are in order toward righting a situation which has finally precipitated the issue of consolidation of school elections.

What Of Consolidation? Blount's Vote Decisive

Will the matter of combining School Board and City Council elections be placed on the ballot or will the whole issue be dropped?

This question will be decided next Tuesday when Councilman Willys Blount must cast the decisive vote. The matter was left dangling in mid-air Tuesday night when the council split 2-2, in the absence of Councilman Blount.

It was at first believed that the matter had to be decided this last Tuesday. However Mayor Albert Isen kept the issue alive when he requested informally that the city attorney prepare a resolution anyway and have it ready next week.

That will be the last time that the council may consider the matter in order to get it on the April ballot.

Councilman Blount's absence went unexplained. In the past he has been a strong and outspoken critic of the School Board and has declared on a number of occasions that he definitely favored consolidating the elections.

Mayor Albert Isen and Councilman Victor Benstead were in favor of placing the matter on the ballot. Councilmen Nick Draie and Mervin Schwab voted against it Tuesday night.

A few weeks ago when the mayor polled the council informally on the matter, they were unanimously in favor of placing the issue on the ballot.

Isen and Benstead have maintained all along that consolidation would provide more repre-

sentative school elections and be an economic savings.

Draie said he voted against the idea because he feels that there would be no saving to the taxpayer since there would still have to be special elections for the El Camino college board of directors.

Bloodmobile Scheduled January 23

The first scheduled bloodmobile will be held early this year . . . January 23, 1956 at the Torrance Civic Auditorium, stated Mrs. Gordon Jones, blood bank chairman this week. "A new time has also been set," Mrs. Jones stated, "in order that groups from industrial plants may come down earlier." The time will be 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. instead of the usual 3 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Interested groups may contact the chairman at Davenport 5-1617 or co-chairman Mrs. W. Cochran at Fairfax 8-1597. Volunteers will again contact individual donors by telephone beginning this week.

Suicide Try Bares Dope and Sex Parties

Investigation into alleged sex and dope parties involving more than a dozen Narbonne high school students was undertaken following an attempted suicide of a 15-year-old Harbor City girl.

The girl, who tried to commit suicide in order "to hurt" her mother, implicated 15 other persons in the dope and sex parties.

The girl's mother told San Pedro police that her daughter had tried to commit suicide by swallowing pills taken from the medical cabinet December 30.

The girl told of dope and sex parties in the Palos Verdes hills. She admitted using marijuana and barbiturates as well as having had sexual relations with a 20-year-old dope peddler from Los Angeles named "Johnny."

The girl had not attended school since the eighth grade. She is on probation from a previous arrest as an incorrigible sex delinquent.

Sgt. D. C. Cook and Officer Leo Gonzales of the Torrance Police Juvenile Department stated that the youth was found in possession of marijuana at the time of his arrest.

He has been turned over to Juvenile Hall for further disposition.

"Because of an upswing in narcotics violations, violators will be dealt with severely," Police Chief Willard Haslam and officials of the Juvenile Department stated.

Sells was killed when his car and a car driven by Darrell Brown, 19, of 19425 Anza St., collided at Lomita and Hawthorne.

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Driver Must Answer To Traffic Death

A man charged with felony manslaughter was released on \$1000 bail and must appear for his preliminary hearing in South Bay Municipal Court Tuesday, January 17.

Arrested following the traffic death of an El Monte aircraft worker was Melkin R. Sears, 34, of 828 Faysmith ave., Torrance.

Dead is James I. Carter, 29, of 2409 N. Merced ave., El Monte. Critically injured was his fiance, Mrs. Shirley Lee Sparks, 19, of 3144 W. 154th st. She was taken to San Pedro Community hospital.

Carter was killed when the vehicle in which he and Mrs. Sparks were parked overlooking the ocean was knocked over a 500-foot embankment on Palos Verdes dr. East near Crest rd. Their car was struck by Sears' car which allegedly failed to negotiate a curve as it was going

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Terror on the Railroad Tracks



SMASH-UP . . . This '56 vehicle collided with a Santa Fe train at Madrid and Torrance blvd. Tuesday night. Driver of the car, Frederick B. Casson, Jr., 22, of 1572 W. 213th st., suffered

a broken knee cap. His sister, Mrs. Gladys Funk, 32, of the same address, received a deep cut on the cheek and right knee and required hospitalization.—Press Photo.