

and juvenile groups functioning in an auxiliary capacity to adult groups.

"The real solution," stated Rev. Maynard Midthun, of the North Torrance Lutheran church, "is a return to the principles on which this nation was founded—God and Jesus Christ. Young people need a sense of significance and a sense of belonging to the family and the community."

Rev. Midthun gave a dramatic example of what happens to juveniles when they are "homeless, restless, and Godless." He told of a 12-year-old Hitler youth who was taught to kill and who killed.

The need for a religious emphasis was brought out a number of times. In addition to expressing the importance of a religious background, Lee Stratford also called for "doing things as a family."

## FRIENDS:

Prior to filing for the current councilmanic race, I found, in my opinion, a man worthy of my support, and the support of my many friends. I therefore wholeheartedly endorse the candidacy of Robert "Bob" Jahn for the office of City Councilman.

**TOM ABRAMS,**  
Member Board of Directors  
Torrance Voters League

**Robert 'Bob' Jahn**

One of Torrance's Three Best Candidates

★ ★ ★ ★

This sentiment was echoed by a member from Carr PTA who declared "let's make the home more popular."

One of the most serious failings of this community in coping with the delinquency problem is the lack of jobs made available to youngsters, Mrs. Herma Tillim pointed out.

### Teenager Speaks

One of the most enthusiastically received speeches, which even drew Mayor Isen's praise, was made by Arlene Lesar, president of North Torrance high school.

Miss Lesar cited a number of ways which would encourage juvenile decency rather than delinquency, namely: 1) publicize the good that teenagers do rather than the bad; 2) look for the good rather than the bad; 3) teach teenagers to think for themselves and to think maturely; 4) treat them like adults not only at school but also at home.

At the completion of her speech she asked movingly: "A child belongs to its parents; an adult belongs to the community; but to whom does a teenager belong?"

A number of individuals criticized newspapers for printing crime news about teenagers and for giving such prominence to such news.

Frequently emphasized was the fact that parents, as a rule, are the real source of the trouble, and that the really difficult job is getting to these parents.

One individual suggested that parental discussion and study groups under capable leadership would be one means of solving parental problems and reaching parents who otherwise might not be reached.

Better high school counseling facilities for youngsters with problems was also asked for.

### 'Holler than Thou' Attitude Bad

Jackie White, another teenager, claimed that part of the responsibility for helping teenagers who get into trouble lies with other teenagers.

"Instead of accepting them we say 'you're not as good as we.' We should try to help them instead of standing around and talk about them. We must look towards the future and not towards the past," she said.

A number of individuals requested that the term "juvenile delinquency" be dropped and another, less stigmatic term be substituted.

Ray Stugart of Crenshaw PTA suggested the term "youth problems."

Going along with the prevalent thinking that "juvenile delinquency is a misnomer," Bill Evans, retired police sergeant voiced the general opinion that "parental delinquency" is much closer to the truth.

"We can solve the problem best by setting an example and by the way we live in our homes and in our daily lives," Evans exclaimed.

### Police Chief Speaks

One of the most stirring speeches of the evening was made by Police Chief Willard Haslam whose words were met with a ringing round of applause.

"Just like a lot of other people trying to solve the problem of juvenile delinquency—I don't know!" he began. "I don't believe there is a thing wrong with juveniles that isn't wrong with adults and the nations of the world. We split the atom. But first we put this to work for the purpose of destruction."

"The youth of today have opportunities and powers they never had before, and they don't know what to do with these."

"The older folks, too, are in a quandary," he continued. "They, too, have opportunities and powers they have never had before, and they don't know what to do with these."

"Ideas won't work unless we get behind them and put them to work. The home is the start for building character and creating a sense of values such as good citizenship, friendship, and the better things of life."

## Council Meeting ...

(Continued From Page 1)

things about the new set-up. He maintained that a 5:30 meeting is the most convenient time for individuals working any one of the three shifts—8-4, 4-12, 12-8.

He asked that the matter be held over until other civic organizations could express themselves. He failed to win his point.

Councilman Schwab wasn't too concerned about the matter, stating that he will be on the council for only a short time longer. Councilman Benstead and Drale are running for reelection.

The first 8 o'clock meeting after the law goes into effect will be March 13.

"If we inculcate that in the young folks," the chief continued. "We'll have gone a long way in solving the problem. Our problem is not greater with the juveniles than it is with ourselves—the problem is ours individually and collectively."

"This government was established 'of, for and by the people.' The first requirement is government OF the people. Your first responsibility is to govern yourself before you try to govern the family, and the family before you try to govern the community."

"The great problem is that we're not taking upon ourselves our individual loads—we are trying to place too much responsibility on the organizations of society."

Rev. Richard A. Miller of the Seaside Community church declared that "juvenile delinquency is a defense mechanism towards what we have bequeathed to the younger generation."

He called for more intensified and more expert counseling.

"Under the tension and strain of modern society, lives are going to pieces," he concluded. "Is it any wonder then that we have a youth problem?"

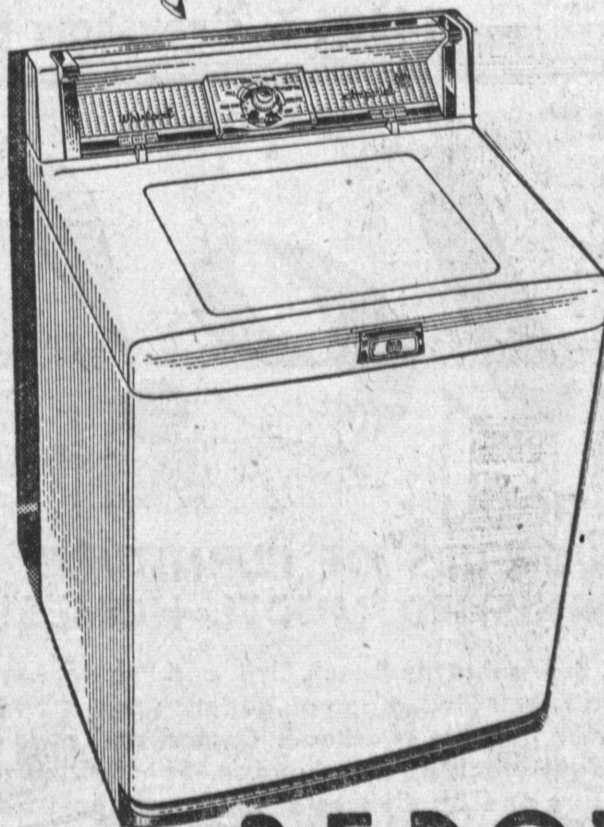
### Three-fold Problem

Rev. Nathan Bond, committee and discussion chairman, concluded the town meeting by offering his own thoughts (Continued on Page 14)



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