

Airport Funds To Boost Safety, Aid Drainage

The citizens of Torrance will be asked to vote October 29, on an Airport Bond Issue of \$1,000,000. The funds will be used primarily for the purchase of land at the westerly end of the airport.

The airport is not being planned for jet or heavy aircraft use, but rather for the same type of aircraft now using the airport. Bond Issue funds are not to be used for lengthening the runway, but are planned for acquiring land for increased safety.

COMMUNITY ASSET: The Torrance Municipal Airport is one of our city's greatest assets. It was acquired from the U.S. Government in 1948 at no expense to the City. It has always been a self-supporting operation.

COST: There will be no cost whatsoever to the general tax of the community. Interest and retirement of the bond issue will be paid entirely from airport revenues.

SAFETY: Safety at the airport will be greatly improved as a result of the proposed land acquisition. Airport safety regulations are directly controlled by the Civil Aeronautics Administration of the Federal Government, assuring high standards. The same type of airplanes will continue to use the airport, whether the bond issue passes or not, but it will be safer for both the citizens and airplanes if the proposed improvements can be made.

FEDERAL AID: It is important that City funds be made available at this time, so that matching funds from Federal Government for Airport improvements may be obtained. The current program of Federal

Government assistance ends next year. This means that the Federal Government will give \$1,000,000 for the airport improvement, providing the bonds carry to assure the City's share.

DRAINAGE: Land to be acquired at the westerly end of the airport can be used as a flood water retention basin, thereby eliminating the flood hazards of the WALTERIA Lake basin. To date no other means of acquiring land for solving this critical problem have been possible. Proper drainage will permit the reclaiming and development of several hundred acres of valuable land, adding greatly to the tax rolls of the community.

ATTRACTS INDUSTRY: Our airport has already attracted such desirable industries as Ryan Aeronautical Company, Coleman Engineering Company, Vickers, Inc., and Longren Aircraft. It can be reasonably expected that others will follow.

CIVIC PRIDE: In this, the age of Aircraft, our city should be very proud of possessing one of the finest municipal airports of its kind in the nation. It is one of the limited few to possess such a community asset.

Citizens are urged to vote "yes" for the Airport Bond Issue on October 29 so that our city may progressively develop its fine airport in keeping with the high standards of our All-America Community. We can increase its safety and utility at no cost to the taxpayer.

Torrance Municipal Airport has been in existence 15 years. Prior to its construction, the land upon which the airport is located was devoted to agricultural

(Continued on Page 8)

You're Ballot Will Ask:

BOND PROPOSITION A — AIRPORT FACILITIES

Shall the City of Torrance incur a bonded indebtedness in the principal amount of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of the acquisition and construction by said city of a certain municipal improvement, to wit: additions to and improvements of the public airport of said city, including the acquisition and improvement of land for aircraft landing approach zones, runways, taxiways, and other airport facilities and improvements, together with all grading and the removal of buildings, and the acquisition of fencing, lighting, apparatus, equipment and property necessary for any of the foregoing?

CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 1:

Shall a new article be added to the Charter of the City of Torrance to be known as "Article XX, Airport Fund" (consisting of Sections 1 to 4, inclusive), establishing a separate fund in the treasury of said city to be designated "Airport Fund," in which shall be placed all receipts from the use or operation of all airport facilities owned by the city, all of said receipts to be used for the expense of operating and maintaining said airport facilities and for the payment of principal and interest on bonds of the city, including general obligation bonds, issued for the acquisition, construction, improvement or financing of airport facilities or for additions, extensions or capital improvements thereto?

Park Funds will Buy 125 Acres

The citizens of Torrance will be asked to vote October 29 on a Park and Recreation Bond Issue of \$3,000,000. Approximately \$2,000,000 will be spent for new site acquisitions. The remaining \$1,000,000 will be used to improve present park and recreation sites. Here are the facts:

WHY: To provide much needed facilities for all the thousands of new citizens who have moved to our community and for those to come.

There is a great need of additional facilities for all the people and especially for the young children and teenagers. Parks build a better community. Good recreation areas attract good citizens. Families who play together stay together.

SITES: It is important to buy sites now. Suitable vacant land is presently available, it may soon be improved. From 125 to 150 acres of properly located land will be purchased. Since land prices are increasing, the sites will never be cheaper.

WHERE: Neighborhood parks, four to 10 acres, will be located in each section of the city. There will be 19 of these. Major parks, 20 to 40 acres, will be located in the North, Central, and South sections of the city.

IMPROVEMENTS: Present sites, particularly those unimproved, will be graded, fenced, landscaped and equipped with park and playground facilities. Restrooms will be provided, other building and improvements made within the limits of the funds.

COST: The cost of the Bond Issue will be \$4.50, or less, to the average homeowner for the first year, decreasing steadily each year thereafter. Recreation for the whole family will be assured for less than 40 cents per month.

Recreation department members prepared and released the answers to the major questions asked about the Bond Issue and contemplated improvements. The questions and answers are:

ing facilities will be done out of the \$1,000,000 to be spent for improving present park and recreation sites?"

It is extremely difficult to specify without having available estimates and preliminary working plans. The cost of preparing these estimates and plans would be in the neighborhood of \$50,000 to \$100,000. Obviously, the city has been in no position to make this large expenditure. It is our plan, if the Bond Issue passes, to develop these exact cost figures with the money from the Bond Issue.

How much money will be spent on any particular local park?

There will be \$1,000,000 available to develop the existing parks only according to the policy established by the City Council this summer. Of this \$1,000,000 about \$175,000 will be set aside for architectural and engineering fees, contingencies, increased costs, change orders, unforeseen problems, etc. The balance, some \$825,000, will be spent to develop approximately 35 acres of existing park land in the City.

This means that the average development for all facilities on a park site would be in the amount of \$23,000 per acre. A five-acre park, therefore, would receive approximately \$115,000 worth of development, exclusive of engineering and architectural fees.

How will this compare with park and recreation development done out of the last Bond Issue?

In the last Bond Issue, the total amount of money available for development was \$150,000, which included engineering and architectural fees and contingencies. The average cost per acre for this development was \$10,000 per acre, but it must be remembered that the development consisted, in the main, of expensive facilities such as recreation buildings, tennis courts, parking lots, etc. In addition,

(Continued on Page 8)

DOUGLAS LAYS OFF 400 FROM TORRANCE, EL SEGUNDO OFFICES



THE TORRANCE YOUTH BAND gets a \$1,000 check from Robert Hammond, Vice-President of the Torrance Police Officers' Association, Mrs. Maxine Hahn who represents the band receives the check. Chief Percy Bennett looks on approvingly as Gary Tiernan sound a note of happiness over the presentation. The donation brings the Youth Band closer to the goal of \$25,000 needed to finance the trip to the Chicago Youth Band Clinic.—Press Photo

Cut Clerical Forces to Match Drop on Production Line

Four hundred office and clerical workers at the El Segundo and Torrance facilities of the Douglas Aircraft Co. were laid off Friday "to parallel the slow decline of its factory work forces in recent weeks," Harold G. Hynd, vice president and general manager of the company's El Segundo division, announced.

"The current lay-off," Hynd said, "brings into temporary balance the desirable economic ratio" between workers on the production line and those on the office and clerical staff.

Continued lay-offs to maintain this balance can be expected "at a later date," Hynd added. However, company spokesmen vigorously denied persistent rumors that a force of 1800 production workers was to be released in the next few weeks.

"That is nothing but a gross unfounded rumor," a spokesman declared. The spokesman reported that Douglas was following its previously announced policy of not laying off its production line staff.

"We're simply not hiring any people to replace those who quit," the spokesman explained. Voluntary resignations average about 100 a week.

Employs 25,180
Douglas' El Segundo division, which includes the Torrance facilities, has approximately 25,180 employees on its payroll. The Torrance facility employs approximately 8,950 people.

In the current lay-off of clerical workers, Douglas officials could not estimate how many lived in Torrance.

Announcements that the company planned to reduce its work force were made in August when the Defense Department began cutting its budget for guided missiles and conventional aircraft. At that time, Douglas executives forecast a "gradual reduction" of personnel in its California plants to 70,000.

Ever mindful of the economies of the communities in which Douglas plants are situated, company executives have made the cuts very "gradual," a company official explained. The work force is reaching the 70,000 set as the minimum production and clerical staff needed to fulfill present contracts, the spokesman added.

Second Layoff
For Torrance, the present lay-off is the second in two weeks. On September 30, U. S. Steel's Columbia-Geneva Steel Division in Torrance laid off 160 men employed in the open hearth and on a 12-inch rolling mill. One of the four open hearths was shut down and rolling mill shifts were cut down from 14 to 10.

Officials at the Torrance office of the California Department of Employment could not readily estimate what the effect of the new layoff would be in Torrance. They said it would take several weeks to determine the full effect on the local labor market.

Employment department officials said, however, that the current rate of placement is running between 450 and 500 a month with a labor pool of approximately 1000 unemployed workers.

The employment office is geared to handle the anticipated applications for unemployment insurance from the 400 office workers. Officials promised to do all they could to help find jobs for the new group.

With Infantry
Army Specialist Third Class Vincent R. Lechner, son of Vincent F. Lechner, 2441 254th st., Lomita, recently took part in a field training exercise held by the 10th Infantry Division in Germany.

Specialist Lechner, entered the Army in July 1956 and received basic training at Fort Ord. He arrived in Europe in February, 1957.

Lechner was graduated from Narbonne High school in 1953.

First Aid Course
A First Aid course will begin on October 17 at North Torrance High school and will meet each Thursday from 7:30 to 10 p.m. in room 1.

Marguerite Ferguson will instruct this standard, revised course which is being offered by Torrance Education Department.

RECORD CROWD OF 3,300 ATTENDS YMCA BREAKFAST

A record breaking turnout of over 3,300 Torrance area residents ate their way through thousands of pancakes and drank up hundreds of gallons of coffee at the annual YMCA Breakfast in the Civic Auditorium Saturday morning.

They came to show their support for Torrance's YMCA center activities and to join in honoring the selection of Al C. Turner of 1008 Acacia ave. as Torrance's Good Neighbor of the Year.

Turner, supervisor of the Mayfair Creamery, served on the YMCA Board of Managers for nine years and assisted the organization in expanding its services to the young men of the city. He is an ardent booster of local football teams.

Turner has been a lifetime member of the Parents-Teachers Association, a member of the Optimists Club, and attends the Episcopal Church.

YMCA Secretary Doug Cannon, assisted by Ronnie Dutton, prepared the pancake batter, sausage, coffee and oranges served at the breakfast well in advance. They anticipated a hungry crowd of 2000 residents, but took the additional thousand or more people in their stride.

Ralph Morris, YMCA Breakfast Chairman, thanked the YMCA boosters and said their support would assure continued expansion of YMCA activities. He singled out the merchants of the city for special thanks. The merchants donated the food.

Torrance's Youth Band, resplendent in their brown uniforms, revealed their ability to play breakfast music. Entertainment was also provided by the "Steelettes," a group of singers representing the Carl Steele School PTA.

Y Announces New Program

Now that Doug Cannon, the new Program Secretary, is at the Torrance YMCA, Gra-Y will be the "big deal" this year. Gra-Y (it means grade school-YMCA) is the National YMCA program for boys in the 4th, 5th, and 6th grades along with their Dads.

These clubs meet weekly and plan games, trips, crafts, worship programs, camping trips, and service projects. Gra-Y Clubs meet any place where grade school boys are found—in homes—in churches—in the Y.

The main purpose of Gra-Y is to develop the spirit, mind, and body of each member. All of the program that the Club decides on helps to achieve this purpose. For each Club there is a Dad's Committee which secures a Leader and helps to plan the program. The Club program itself is flexible and each club decides on its individual activities.

The Torrance YMCA will be holding organizational meetings of all interested boys in the 4th, 5th, and 6th grades and their Dads throughout the community to start Gra-Y Clubs in your neighborhood. Call the Torrance Y for further information.

Riviera Club Rushes Second Storm Drain

Riviera Beach Club officials moved into action to avert flood damage to the club building this week after the sudden deluge Friday morning proved the inadequacy of the present drainage system around the club.

The shower run-off cut a six-foot wide and six-foot deep gully on the beach front side of the building. Another storm drain is necessary to carry the run-off away from the building, club officials believed.

Plans for the enlarged drainage system were being drawn Friday afternoon, and work is expected to be completed within 30 days.

In other Torrance areas, the low areas that usually fill up after each rain created additional work for the Street department. Ralph Perkins, Street department superintendent, said five men were called out of their beds for emergency action during the brief rainstorm.

Four men manned the pumps on Pasee de Gracia for three hours and kept the water from running over the curbs. Perkins estimated that the water on the street was 14 to 15 inches deep soon after the rain stopped. Barricades were erected at Torrance Blvd. and Madrid; Janet Lane and Highway 101; 231 st. and Arlington ave.; 182 st. and Falda.

By mid-morning most of the areas were clear.

Report 2 Polio Cases In Sept.

Two cases of poliomyelitis were reported to the Torrance District Health office in September bringing the total number of polio cases in the area since January 1 to nine. Dr. B. A. Kogan, district health officer announced.

He said only one of the nine cases was paralytic polio and that the person who was struck down by this type of polio had received no immunization shots.

Of the eight non-paralytic cases, four had received no shots, three received two shots, one received one shot. Three shots of the new Salk vaccine are recommended.

One cannot help but be encouraged by the effect of the vaccine, although these nine cases do not mean much by themselves, Dr. Kogan said.

Car Overturns, Traps Driver

A 25-year-old Torrance service station attendant suffered a broken arm and possible internal injuries when his car missed a curve, skidded through a field, jumped a railroad embankment and turned over and slid 75 feet on its top.

Pinned in the wreckage, William E. Driever, 25, of 1860 Torrance Blvd., kidded with his rescuers who worked for 30 minutes to extricate him Thursday morning. "It only hurts when I laugh," he told them.

Officers Don Hartel and Don Lemaster said Driever's car apparently missed the turn from Walnut ave. into Sepulveda Blvd. The car knocked down a railroad switch lever and came to rest against the concrete base of a railway semaphore.

Driever was taken to Harbor General Hospital.

Strip Teaser Held As Bad Checker

A former burlesque strip-teaser was to appear in Southbay Municipal Court Tuesday for a preliminary hearing on charges that she shed about \$500 in worthless checks in the Torrance area.

Mrs. Eugenia Daum, 37, of 5500 Torrance Blvd., was arrested by Torrance police Wednesday on the complaint of Douglas Proffit, manager of Clark's Market, Pacific Coast Highway and Crenshaw Blvd.

Officers said the strawberry blonde, known professionally on Los Angeles burlesque stages as Jean Mason, told them that she cashed the checks to get enough money "to buy clothes."



TWO YOUNG YMCA VOLUNTEERS stir the batter for the pancakes served 3,300 Torrance area residents who attended the YMCA Breakfast Saturday.

Thurs Gold in Them Gold Rush Days Tonight

Thurs gold to be found in Torrance's downtown stores by shoppers participating in the Gold Rush Days, now in its third week of prize drawings and bargains.

Another \$100 will be given away to the lucky shopper whose ticket number is drawn at 7 p.m. Monday night in front of the Torrance Shoe Mart on Sartori ave. After the main drawing, other prizes will be awarded to additional holders of lucky tickets.

The tickets may be obtained from any downtown merchant. All tickets are good until October 21, when the last drawing will be held in front of Trend O Fashion on Sartori ave. Stores remain open until 9 p.m. during the Gold Rush Days.

Announce Candidates for Queen

The names of 16 top candidates for Homecoming Queen of Torrance High school were announced at a pep rally Friday morning.

They were: Barbara Balow, Alice Newborn, Laura Lee Sturgill, Diana Cook, Diana Esch and Virginia Sandstrom, Betty Baker, Gay Maupin, Roberta Roy, Claudia Smith, Bonnie Fletcher, Janet Zuber, Rosemary Hill, Joyce Cannon, Diana Wray and Becky Chandler.

Student body members voted on Wednesday in a preliminary contest to select the queen.

The girl who receives the most votes in the election scheduled for next week will reign as queen and the four runners up will serve as her attendants.

The Annual Homecoming ceremony will be held on October 25, when the Tartars meet the Mira Costa Mustangs at Torrance.

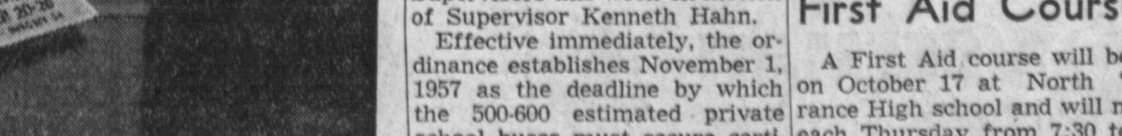
The queen and her court will take part in the half-time activities.

TO INSPECT PRIVATE SCHOOL BUSES

An urgency ordinance requiring all private school buses to be inspected by the California Highway Patrol was adopted unanimously by the Board of Supervisors this week on motion of Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

Effective immediately, the ordinance establishes November 1, 1957 as the deadline by which the 500-600 estimated private school buses must secure certificates from the California Highway Patrol to the effect that they are in safe mechanical condition before being allowed to operate on County roads, streets and highways.

United Nations Week poster is presented to Mayor Albert Isen by Mrs. J. B. Mosley, President of the United Church Women of Torrance and Mrs. R. E. Moffitt, President of the Torrance Women's Club. He proclaimed that the City of Torrance will observe United Nations Week, beginning Oct. 24.



UNITED NATIONS WEEK poster is presented to Mayor Albert Isen by Mrs. J. B. Mosley, President of the United Church Women of Torrance and Mrs. R. E. Moffitt, President of the Torrance Women's Club. He proclaimed that the City of Torrance will observe United Nations Week, beginning Oct. 24.



The Largest Circulating Newspaper between Los Angeles and Long Beach

TORRANCE PRESS

10¢ Per Copy

1406 CRAVENS AVE. — FA. 8-2345

VOL. IX 1 2 119

Monday, October 14, 1957

No. 33