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### Seek Approval of Ball Commission at Hearing

The Torrance Park and Recreation Commission will hold a special meeting on October 1, at 7:30 p.m. in the Employees Lounge at the Torrance City Hall to which each Babe Ruth League Pony League and Little League within the city limits of Torrance is invited to send a representative.

Letters have been sent to presidents of the following leagues: M. C. Spaulding, 5314 Calle de Ricardo, Riviera Little League; Roy O. Loyd, 20015 Grevillea, Tordondo Little League; Ray Tibbens, 21617 Linda Drive, Southwood National Little League.

Ted Carroll, 4301 Paseo de Las Tortugas, Pacific Coast Little League; John Schnepf, 22427 Ellinwood Drive, Torrance American Little League; Robert Sonju, 1407 Greenwood, Torrance National Little League; Herb Fisher, 18705 Fonthill, Torrance Central Little League.

John Keith, 1514 Amapola ave.,

Torrance Babe Ruth League. Also Walter Butler, 2323 Evans Court, Lomita, District Representative; Charles Mearing, 22503 Linda Drive, American Legion Baseball, and Lance Swallow, 1550 Voorhees ave., Pony League.

Robert Cramer, chairman of the Torrance Park and Recreation Commission, stated that he has attempted to contact all leaders of youth baseball leagues in the city. Because there is a possibility some league was overlooked, he asked that such people contact the Torrance Recreation Department, Fairfax 8-4108, for any information they may want regarding the meeting.

Cramer said that the Park and Recreation Commission is calling this meeting in an effort to help the various youth baseball league managers in securing sufficient ball diamonds to carry on their programs during the 1959 season.

It is the commission's hope, he stated, that problems of ball diamonds could be solved for years to come through an organization such as the Youth Baseball Council. He emphasized that the thinking, at present, that the Torrance Recreation Department would also have a representative on the Council and would not be managing the affairs of the Council. The Council would be an independent group, responsible only to the Park and Recreation Commission, according to present plans.

### School Attendance Near 23,200 Mark Now, Report

School attendance in the Torrance Unified School District neared the 23,200 mark last week, as students and teachers dug into their work for another year.

By Oct. 1, attendance is expected to reach the 23,200 mark.

At last report, there were 18,589 elementary students, 4515 high schoolers, and 71 handicapped youngsters.

As usual, the kindergarten class was the largest in numbers, with 2840 kindergartners, as compared with only 717 high school seniors.

Enrollment figures showed that North High has 1982 students, South High has 1185, and Torrance High has 1185. With 1206 pupils, Casimir School led the elementary list, followed by Meadow Park with 1069 and Carr with 987.

Of the 562 elementary classrooms, 130 combine two or three grades in one classroom.

The "Little Red Schoolhouse" program, in operation for the past three years at Waleria School, was continued this year, and four schools—Parkway, Seaside, Steele, and Wood—are starting the program for the first time. Under this plan, youngsters from three different grades are placed in the same classroom for instruction. It has proved quite successful at Waleria School, and was the subject of a recent Newsweek

Magazine article. A modification of this plan is now in operation in many classrooms in other schools. In these rooms, two grades are combined in one classroom. This is done where there are an odd number of students in a given grade.

At Hillside School, for example, there are 50 seventh graders and 59 eighth graders—too many for one classroom for each grade, but not enough for two classrooms for each grade. To save either overcrowding or the expense of

hiring another teacher, some of the seventh and eighth graders are placed in one room.

If one additional teacher were hired at each school to teach an odd number of students, the cost to taxpayers would be more than \$200,000 a year.

"The method of grouping children is not as important as how the teacher instructs them," Assistant Superintendent Albert Posner said. "A successful teacher determines what each child

is capable of doing and gives him work as fast as he is capable of learning it." Studies have shown that in an ordinary single-grade classroom, there often is as much difference in ability between the highest and lowest students as there is in a classroom with two or three grades, he said.

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### Pajama Game Rehearsals Now Under Way

Rehearsals are now under way for the "Pajama Game" next production of the South Bay Light Opera Co., to be given at Redondo High School Auditorium Nov. 7, 8, 14 and 15.

Songs by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross include "Hey There," "Steam Heat" and "Hernando's Hideaway."

More than 200 persons from the Torrance South Bay area showed up for auditions.

The cast finally selected, includes Phil Crummett as Sid Sorokin, Adores Thom as Babe Williams, Nancy Clair Wallace, as Gladys, Rick Winter as Hines, Fred West as Pres.

Co-producers are E. H. Knowlton and R. G. McCaman. The latter will direct. Choral director is Edward Najera, while Carl Whitmer and Robert Reggers are choreographers.

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