

Victoria Park Residents to Fight 'Poker City' Plan

Gambling City Plan Hit by Residents

A campaign to protest the proposed incorporation of Victoria Park as a brand new gambling city was outlined at a meeting in Towne Elementary School Tuesday night.

The Victoria Park Civic Council which last Oct. 21 voted to oppose formation of a 1.2 square mile metropolis, intends to circulate petition to oppose the incorporation drive on which a hearing may be called in a month.

Petitions favoring cityhood with the inclusion of a Garden-style poker club, were filed with the Board of Supervisors Friday by Joseph Asaro, 349 E. 182nd St.

Not Big Enough

"We're not big enough to incorporate, and the council is opposed to it, with or without gambling," declared Mrs. Paul Hinkle, president of the Civic Council.

The Board of Supervisors Tuesday referred the petitions to the county clerk to check the sufficiency of signatures.

Asaro earlier indicated that his proposal for incorporation is based on the establishment of a card club. He said that revenue from this source would be used for a swimming pool, and youth center.

3500 Population

Victoria Park, located west of Avalon Blvd. and south of Victoria St., has a population of approximately 3500. If it becomes a city, it would be the smallest in the county.

The area's total assessed valuation is estimated at \$1,784,360, a figure, Mrs. Hinkle maintains, is far too small to support a city government.

Proponents of cityhood are required to have the signatures of 25 per cent of the property owners who must represent at least 25 per cent of the assessed valuation.

Mrs. Hinkle said that sentiment among the 300 members of her council are overwhelmingly opposed to cityhood, with or without gambling.

Tried Before

Asaro last year unsuccessfully attempted to legalize poker clubs in Hermosa Beach. At that time, and again in Victoria Park, he has refused to announce the names of his financial backers. He says he is a retired steel worker.

New Northside Schools to Hold Feb. 9 Opening

Three new north Torrance elementary schools will open Feb. 9, according to school officials, barring last-minute construction difficulties.

The three schools—Magruder, Yukon, and Hamilton—will reduce the number of children on double session in north Torrance from 2800 to about 1150. At the same time, the district will close El Nido School, which is housed in wooden bungalows.

Each of the three schools will have 14 classrooms, two kindergarten rooms, administration, and multipurpose buildings. Magruder and Hamilton will have shop and homemaking units, while Yukon and Hamilton will have music buildings.

DON JUAN" OPENS

G. B. Shaw's "Don Juan in Hell" opens tomorrow for a four night run at the Hermosa Beach Playhouse. Other performances, for which reservations may be made by calling FR 9-0890, are slated Jan. 24, 30 and 31.



NEARING COMPLETION—Scheduled to open in the next few weeks, finishing touches are being made on the giant new May Company's newest suburban store in the Southern California area. The May Company's newest store is a 3-story structure containing 351,000 square feet and will be a major store in the Shopping Center which now includes Ralphs, Newberry's, Thrifty, South Bay Bowling Alley, Steak Knife Restaurant and numerous others. Parking is provided for 5800 cars.

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New Oil Boom Looms in Old South Torrance Field

Jewelry Missing From Jail

Disappearance of a \$1000 ring while its owner was locked up in the Torrance jail last month, was charged in an affidavit submitted to the City Council Tuesday.

Newell John Gardner, a Los Angeles attorney filed the document in behalf of two clients who were arrested by Redondo Beach police, and held in the Torrance city jail.

The attorney alleges in so many words, that John Milton Turner, Jr., and Jerry Servillo were subjects of a Redondo Beach police "roust," and that both men were held from Dec. 12 through 17 and then released.

The attorney charged that during the period of imprisonment here, a gold ring containing a one-half carat diamond, disappeared from the storage locker where it was kept. He said that Turner, who owned the ring, which was taken off when he was booked, furnished him with a police receipt for the ring.

Both men will make claims against Torrance and Redondo Beach, seeking reimbursement for the ring and for auto storage charges, and also for what they claim constituted false imprisonment and loss of earnings, Gardner said.

Terrance police officials said that they had nothing to do with the booking or the custody of the men's property, since part of their facilities are used exclusively by Redondo Beach police under a lease agreement.

Redondo Beach has a contract with Torrance under which they keep their prisoners here, since their own jail was condemned.

Redondo Beach is the heart of the South Bay Shopping Center, Hawthorne Blvd. at 174th St.

The new site suggested is a small rectangular park on the north side of Torrance Blvd. between Sartori Ave. and Engracia Ave.

It was suggested that a building and restrooms be constructed at the site at a cost not to exceed \$2000.

Park Viewed as Bus Terminal

A bus terminal switch was recommended to the City Council Tuesday by Superintendent M. A. Chamberlain.

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In addition to serving the Los Angeles retail and business fraternity, Preis has long been active in the civic and public service affairs of the community. At the present time he is the Los Angeles County Fund Campaign Chairman for Muscular Dystrophy; member of the Board of Governors; Los Angeles County Art Institute; charter treasurer, Otis Associates, Los Angeles County Art Associates; president

of Lay Board, Daniel Freeman Hospital, Inglewood; and member-at-large, Los Angeles Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Preis resides with his wife, Jane, and their two sons at 4113 Punta Alta Drive in Los Angeles.

Pair Saved from Underground Tomb



COMING UP—Rescue workers are shown as they uncovered face of Pete Dodge, 19, (arrows) who with his boss, Jay Ravin, 45, was saved from live burial in a sewer hole cave-in Monday afternoon. The two men were at the bottom of the 18-foot ex-

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Ingram Heads Police Group

Huey (Buck) Ingram is the new president of the Torrance Police Officers Association, succeeding Tom Pattishall.

Holdover trustees are Ralph Walker, Maxine Hahn, Dave Cook and Jim Daniels.



JOHN J. PREIS

of Lay Board, Daniel Freeman Hospital, Inglewood; and member-at-large, Los Angeles Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Preis resides with his wife, Jane, and their two sons at 4113 Punta Alta Drive in Los Angeles.

Speedy Rental Through Press Pleases Landlady

Mrs. Richard Eakin, of 2533 Oak St., Lomita, was so pleased with the results of a Torrance Press classified ad, that she wished she had more than one house for rent.

The response to her ad for a two bedroom house was so fast, that she was able to rent it the same day to a very nice family.

"We could have rented several houses, the response was that good," Mrs. Eakin said.

If you have something to rent, sell or buy, take advantage of the fast results of Torrance Press want ads by calling an ad-taker at FA 8-2345.

SUPERINTENDENTS CONFER

Torrance School Superintendent J. H. Hull hosted 17 other school superintendents from this area at an all-day meeting in the Educational Materials Building here Friday.



NEW OIL BOOM — That was the prediction of C. G. Perry, whose independent company claims to have discovered a rich new oil strata at a depth of 5320 underneath the existing oil

Deeper Strata Struck

Discovery of a new, deeper and promising major oil zone in the Torrance area was announced this morning by C. G. Perry, president of the Perry Oil Company.

The new zone was encountered at 5320 feet, some 2000 feet below the Del Amo zone, the deepest producing zone in the field. Petroleum engineers had long suspected the existence of major productive sand at this depth—a possible continuation of the rich Wilmington field—but no definite proof of the new zone was obtained until a Perry rig reached the new strata early Sunday morning at 235th St. and Walnut Ave.

Cement pouring began immediately and by the end of this week an accurate assessment of the area's potential should be possible, according to W. E. Luckett, petroleum engineer for the Union Pacific railroad's interest in Wilmington and longtime consultant to the Perry Company.

Discovery of the new zone below the Del Amo will greatly affect the Torrance area, since operators of shallower, uneconomic wells in the vicinity are expected to begin deepening their existing holes to reach the new zone at comparably small drilling costs.

President Perry was encouraged to attempt deep drilling in the old Torrance field when his petroleum geologists pointed out that electric logs charted from two earlier test holes—one in 1947 and another in 1956—indicated the existence of a major reservoir under the Del Amo.

Perry's petroleum geologists believe the new zone probed by the Barlow 1 extends continuously north and south for three-quarters of a mile and at least this distance northwest-southwest.