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## New Subdivisions Okayed by Board

Clearance for two new Torrance subdivisions was granted this week by the Los Angeles Regional Planning Commission. Commission members approved plans involving five single family residence lots on three acres located north of Palos Verdes Dr. East and east of Crest Rd. in the Palos Verdes Peninsula zoned district. Clearance went to the owner and subdividers, Warren Southwest, Inc., 20834 South Normandie Ave. in Torrance.

Subdividers Dan Butcher and Benny Mastropolo, 2371 Torrance Blvd., received approval of their plans for six acres with 32 single family residence lots situated south of Ocean Ave. and east of Vermont Ave. in the Carson zoned district.

## Real Estate

### Draft Call Drops

The draft call for February has been set at 6000 men, 1000 less than the number called in January.

All of the February quota will go into the Army. It will bring to 2,503,430 the number of men inducted by Selective Service since the draft was resumed during the Korean emergency.

### Novel Idea

A fire department in Iowa maintains a band made up exclusively of saxophones. This technique of blowing them out must be new. Portland Oregonian.

## New Market Nears Finish

The big, new ultra modern Fox Market at 20800 S. Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance, is now in the final construction stages and an early February opening is scheduled, according to Robert E. Palmer, executive vice president and general manager of the fast-growing chain.

Palmer said the new market, the 40th in the Fox Markets chain, is the initial unit of a "planned complete shopping center for the City of Torrance. The shopping center will ultimately include a major chain drug store, department store, restaurants and a complete line of fashion and service stores, as well as our new Fox Market."

### Bonus Stamp Annex

Adjacent to the new Fox Market and scheduled for opening at the same time as a 5000 square foot S&H Green Stamp showroom and warehouse. The S&H Green Stamp Plan is a feature of the Fox Market chain.

"Having the S&H store so close to the market will be a great convenience for our shoppers and will make it very easy for them to redeem their S&H Green Stamp books for merchandise," Palmer said.

The new market building, designed by the Carl Maston-Richard Santa Los Angeles Architectural firm, contains approximately 30,000 square feet of steel frame and masonry. The architects say the market was designed to give a dramatic, pleasant light and airy feeling for shoppers.

Interesting features of the new Fox Market include a wall constructed of aluminum and glass, lightweight aluminum frame ceilings designed to provide better acoustics; a 181 foot long porcelain enameled steel sunshade; and a concrete block exterior wall with interesting patterns of inserts.

The architects said "extensive parking space has been provided for market shoppers. We have allowed room for 221 cars to be parked for the convenience of Fox Market shoppers."

Ultra-modern in all aspects, the new market is completely air conditioned and has both automatic exit and entrance doors.



**ELECTRONIC MAGIC**—Chuck Daniels, Fox Market director, demonstrates new electronic directory. To find any item in the Fox Market, merely press button opposite the desired article. A recording then plays, providing exact directions to aisle and shelf.

## How the Inch Was Adopted

It took centuries for men to agree on a standard length for the inch. But outside of the English-speaking countries, most people would call it a waste of time.

The inch started out as the width of a man's thumb. That was a sound idea as long as one man was doing the measuring. But when two men began arguing over a boundary, they needed a thumb they both respected. The chief might provide the standard measurement for a village, but there was trouble again when another village was involved.

In the 1100's, a Scottish king named David compromised: he decreed that an inch was the average of the thumbs of three men — a small man, a man of medium stature, and a large man — "measured at the tip of the nail."

England wouldn't buy that, and a few years later Richard I made the first law requiring actual standards for measurement. These were iron bars, guarded by sheriffs. In case of a dispute, the item in question could be measured against the standard. The iron didn't wear well, however, and copies made from the original were crude.

According to World Book Encyclopedia, Edward II tried his hand at standardizing the inch in the 1300's. He declared that one inch should be equal to three barleycorns taken from the center of the ear and placed end to end.

The French, bursting with equality during their Revolution, thought that was typical of royal whimsy and let the scientists take over. The result was the metric system, based on the decimal system, which the Egyptians had been using for centuries.

France adopted the system and many nations followed suit. In 1875, 17 nations including the U.S. set up the International Bureau of Weights and Measures near Paris. Standards of the meter and the kilogram, made of an alloy of platinum and iridium, were placed in the Bureau, and duplicates were sent to the governments of the founding nations.

The U.S. was reluctant to give up the yard and the pound, measures which it had taken from England. But in 1893 it adopted the metric system as the standard for legally defining these measures.

Except for the U.S., Great Britain and most of the British Commonwealth nations, most countries have adopted the metric system. It is used in science . . . in measuring radio waves and electric current . . . and in all U.S. government departments dealing in tariff operations, in coinage money, and in weighing foreign mail.

**Statistical**  
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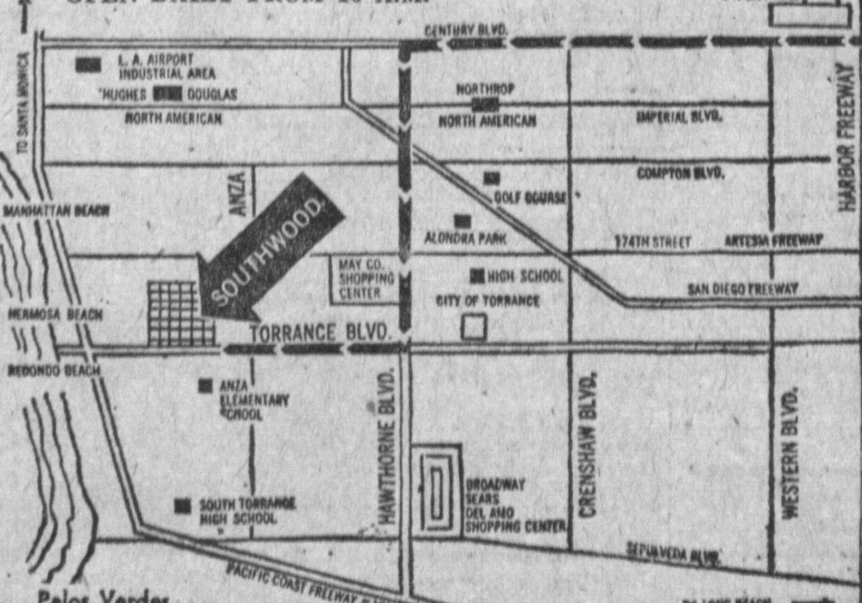
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## Civic Center Promo Report

The Civic Center Promotion Committee's official report will be presented by Chairman James Becker to the Torrance City Council on Tuesday, January 19, it was announced today.

The Committee, appointed by the City Council to make recommendations for the development of the Civic Center, has been meeting the past few months.

Becker said his group is recommending the immediate hiring of an Architectural firm to Master Plan the entire 42-acre Center. Plans for the center, as recommended, will include an auditorium, recreation centers, athletic fields, Y.M.C.A. Building, Community Welfare Building, and Library.

Becker said when completed the center will be one of the finest in the entire nation. The citizens of Torrance can be

grateful that a far-thinking City Government has made it possible to have such a Civic Center development. Something most cities don't have he declared.

The committee has recommended that a lease-back plan of financing be used, Becker added.

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## New Schools Slated for City

Barring unforeseen developments, Torrance children will move into one new school, one rehabilitated school, and additions to 10 other schools within the next two months.

That was what James E. Crockett, director of new construction for Torrance schools, told the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee Monday noon, in a report on school building activities.

Adams School, 238th and Arlington, should be open about the middle of March, he said, relieving double sessions at Wood School. Rehabilitation and earthquake proofing of Fern School should be complete about the same time, he added, relieving the load at Greenwood School.

Additions at Walther, Steele, Madison, Edison and Torrance Elementary Schools should be open about the first of February, he noted, while additions at Anza, Lincoln, Newton, Arlington and Sepulveda are scheduled to open about the middle of the month.

Depending on progress of construction, Towers School may open late this spring, helping crowded conditions at Steele and Flavian Schools. Madison School, which will relieve Carr and Perry, probably will be ready about the close of school.

Additions to North and South High will be open early next year.

Now on the planning boards are Victor Elementary School, West High School, Hickory Ave. Elementary School, and additions to Torrance High.

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## Lionesses Plan Bowling Meet

The North Torrance Lioness Club made plans for an evening of bowling next month at a recent meeting in the Alondra Club.

Members also discussed plans to attend the Lions Convention in Santa Monica Jan. 23.

Those attending were Emily Schleissner, Alva Wilson, Ardis Church, Olive Hunter, Helma Chambers, Joyce Thomas, Dottie Heib and Fern Earick.

And Dorothy Baker, Louise Comstock, Sue Kimble, Marge Cunerty, Pat Stamm, Joan Peterson, Nancy Parker, Pat Perez, Betty Nolan, Flo McLayne, Shirley Cullum, Clara Brown, Betty Hubert and Flora Mathews.

**Birds of A Feather**  
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## DID YOU KNOW by Ken



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