

SPECIAL ELECTION EDITION

Impossible Choice Between Qualified Mayor Candidates

The Torrance Press has been hard put trying to make an honest and decisive choice between the two top contenders for the post of mayor of Torrance.

Both of the frontrunners in the race, incumbent Mayor Albert Isen and Councilman Willys Blount, have conducted unusually vigorous campaigns in their search for the top elective post in the city.

Both have shown a willingness to serve their city, its government and its residents, both have clearly outlined the issues at stake in Tuesday's municipal election and have meticulously shown their own stands on these same issues.

FIGHTERS

Both have shown, beyond a doubt, that they are professional political fighters . . . and any city that hopes to progress can use a fighter!

Willys Blount, will give up his seat on the city council, which he has held for the past 12 years, to seek election as mayor.

Albert Isen, incumbent to the post, seeks re-election to the post he has held for the past seven years.

One unfortunate aspect of this campaign is that both leading candidates have personally attacked the other in public and in paid political advertising.

We urge our readers to overlook this regrettable and unnecessary fogging of the issues.

For this reason, and for the first time in the history of this newspaper, the Press finds itself unable to make a choice between these two candidates.

Both are well qualified and both could do an excellent job of guiding the city for the next four years.

We hope that after the election the scars can be healed and that we can get back to work building a greater Torrance.

MUNICIPAL BALLOT

For MEMBERS of the
CITY COUNCIL

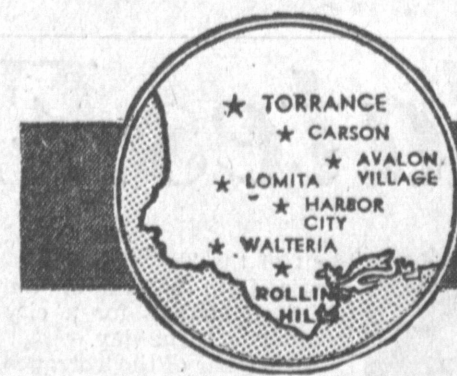
Vote for Three

J. A. Beasley Incumbent	X
John J. Barton	
Garth Belknap	
Eva I. Bisou	
Russ Cameron	
James Cicchini	
Jean Clawson	
Earl A. Foster	
Harley E. Gibson	
Arthur D. Kinane	
George Kurtz	
David K. Lyman	
Naomi A. McVey	
Ken Miller	X
Nat P. Mondati	
Stewart E. Rose	
Ross A. Sciarrotta	X
William R. Steele	
Fred Steinbroner, Jr.	
William E. Taylor	

For CITY CLERK

Vote for One

Vernon W. Coil	
Rose Craig	
Charles L. Deck	
Tom Faren	
Thirvin D. Fleetwood	
William A. Manis	
Bernard Miller	
George G. Morehart	
James G. Shidler	X
Earle Sumpter	
Herma O. Tillim	



TORRANCE PRESS

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BLOUNT FILES \$500,000 LIBEL SUIT AGAINST ISEN

The Press Endorses. . .



ROSS SCIARROTTA—Outstanding educator, world traveler, and authority on governmental affairs, Sciarrotta would be a breath of fresh air on the Torrance city council. He is a firm believer in removal or fencing of dumps and dangerous pitfalls within the city. His background on the city's civil service board has been outstanding, unbiased, yet firm, and his pledge to improve city recreational facilities make him one of the top-ranking candidates for the post. A strong believer in governmental economy, we strongly recommend his election to the city's governing board.



KEN MILLER—Well known, respected and liked in the Central Torrance area, Miller is one of the most able candidates to file for election to the city council. His sense of fairness is unquestioned and his dedication and devotion to the betterment of the community is widely recognized. Born and raised in Torrance, he is aware of the problems facing this community, has decided opinions on how to deal with them, and has the time, energy and enthusiasm for the task. Determined to help make Torrance a better place in which to live, he is undoubtedly one of the top ranking candidates for the post.



J. A. BEASLEY—Incumbent councilman Beasley has done outstanding work in his one term on the council. Recognized as an authority on street and highway development, he is currently president of the Inter-City Highway Commission, composed of representatives from 13 cities in the Torrance area. He has spearheaded drives to improve Hawthorne and Crenshaw lighting, signalization and roadwork, and is thus responsible for saving many lives through reduced accident incidence. For these, and many other reasons we heartily endorse his re-election to the council.



JAMES SHIDLER—An outstanding candidate for the post of city clerk, Shidler is well known throughout the community and has conducted one of the most vigorous campaigns in the pre-election period. He believes that the post should be effectively administered and that his responsibility, as city clerk, should be to the electorate. He has maintained his campaign free from any slate of candidates and is capable of maintaining the office in the face of the exceptional growth of the city.

Voluntary Retraction

The Torrance Press VOLUNTARILY retracts statements made in the first six paragraphs of an advertisement appearing on Page A-10 of the April 4 edition referring to the council record of Willys Blount, candidate for mayor of Torrance.

This item was placed as paid political advertising by incumbent Mayor Albert Isen and a special committee which sponsored the ad.

The Torrance Press has always tried to remain within the bounds of good taste in both its editorial and advertising material.

LAST MINUTE BULLETIN

Mayor Albert Isen, contacted by the Press yesterday noon, said that he had been served and intended to file a counter suit.

He said that he had instructed his attorneys to draw up the necessary papers and that he would bring suit for libel against Councilman Willys Blount. He stated that he would demand damages of \$1,000,000.



FRED SPANGLER—A political neophyte in Torrance, Spangler has amazed the electorate with his outstanding ability during the campaign. A candidate for the post of city treasurer, he has conducted one of the cleanest and most non-controversial campaigns during the pre-election period, relying on his knowledge of the duties of the office to impress the voters. He served with distinction on the city-to-city program and as a volunteer on many civic programs. An able and successful businessman, the Press firmly endorses his candidacy for the office.

Also Names Group Which Sponsored Ad

Councilman Willys Blount, incensed at some "highly derogatory" statements against himself which were published in paid political advertisements, Friday filed suit for a half-million dollars against incumbent Mayor Albert Isen and the committee which allegedly sponsored the ads.

Blount also demanded retractions from the three newspapers which carried the advertisements.

Blount said that he had intended to have the papers served on the mayor and the other defendants Friday night but that he had been unable to get in touch with Isen.

Advertisement, which was published Wednesday in both of Torrance's community papers and in an out-of-town daily, was sponsored by an organization called the "City-Wide Committee to Re-elect Mayor Albert Isen."

Advertisement was also signed "Chairman, Jack Phillips" and "Secretary, Polly Watts." The two alleged signers were also listed in the suit.

Suit was filed in Inglewood Superior Court. Attorney Charlton A. Mewborn will represent Blount.



ALBERT ISEN



WILLYS BLOUNT

FINAL TALLY . . .

Open House Tues. Night at The Press

Everyone's invited!

An open house will be held Tuesday night at the Torrance Press as final returns on the city-wide election start to roll in.

Candidates for public office, their friends and supporters are invited to drop by and sweat out the final tally with us.

The coffee pot will be on and there will be doughnuts for those who aren't too nervous to eat.

Torrance Press reporters will stake out at city hall and phone in the tallies, precinct by precinct, as they come in.

After the final vote is counted it will be a fine time for the losers to congratulate the winners, in the American tradition of good sportsmanship.

This election night gathering at the Torrance Press has, over the years, become a standard practice on this newspaper.

We invite everyone to drop by, have a chat with the candidates, and to start the ball rolling for a bigger and better Torrance.



CROWD GATHERS—Turnout at Friday's "Meet the Candidates" night, sponsored by the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce in the THS auditorium, exceeded all expectations, it was reported yesterday. Although crowd was small at the start visitors soon began to drift

in, and by the half-way mark, an unusually large group had arrived. Above, Councilman Willys Blount, candidate for mayor, outlines his program for the audience.

—Press Photo

For CITY TREASURER

Vote for One

Harriett V. Leech Incumbent	
Thomas C. Rupert	
Fred Spangler	X
Gaylord D. Stenberg	