



TORRANCE PRESS

EDITORIAL PAGE

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EDITORIAL . . .

'Penny Wise' Policy Results In 'Pound Foolish' Principle

The ancient adage, "Penny-wise and Pound-foolish," is very applicable to a situation now existing in the city of Torrance.

Councilmen and the mayor of the city are, under present ordinances, paid a monthly stipend of \$100 a month plus a small proportion of their expenses for what has become virtually a full-time job.

The combined amount paid to these dedicated city officials offsets only a small percentage of the cost with the balance paid out of their own pockets.

It is past time for us to recognize the sacrifices that these men make in the name of the city.

It is certainly enough that they should give hour after hour of time to the service of the city without having to pay through the nose for the privilege.

Councilmen, by law and by natural inclination, may not raise their own salaries. Any increase in pay for the job

must come from the voters and must be carried on the ballot.

INITIATIVE

It is time for us, the taxpaying citizens of this community, to initiate petitions that would place this matter on the ballot.

A proposal to increase the pittance presently paid to the city fathers would be a worthwhile public service undertaking for one or several of our more active organizations.

While the city of Torrance has been growing by leaps and bounds and the duties of salaried employees of the city have increased proportionally, the councilmen have carefully made sure that these public servants have been adequately paid.

However, it is time that we realize that dedicated and able men are hard to find, and those qualified to run should not be discouraged because they cannot afford to hold the office.

Letters

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to urge to your attention the fact that several businessmen in the community are giving away (or selling for a few cents) chicks and other small animals for the Easter season. The SPCA publicizes each year the fact that few, if any, of these helpless creatures survive in private homes, where they fall prey to neighborhood cats, dogs, and children who do not know how to treat nor care for them.

The city of Los Angeles has an ordinance to protect these animals by requiring that they not be given away and that they be sold only in groups of six or more. This is a moderate requirement, but sufficient to prevent cheap promotional exercises. Although stores outside the limits of Los An-

geles are not encumbered by this ordinance, I hope their acceptance of its intent in good faith can be encouraged through public opinion. We suburban communities pride ourselves on self-rule, yet we are sadly lacking in humanitarian legislation such as this.

I hope you, because of your responsible position, will consider this matter of sufficient importance to bring to bear your influence in changing these practices.

Very truly yours,

James P. Wrzesinski

Dividend

Security First National Bank's board of directors today (April 10) declared the regular dividend of 40 cents a share on the common stock, payable May 5 to shareholders of record April



H.S. WINNER — Elias "Bud" Baumgarten, North High School junior, displays the first place trophy he won in district competition which qualifies him for state and national speech competition.



TRIO OF WINNERS — Three of the Superior Award winners at the first speech tournament held for elementary school students at North High School smile victoriously. Left to right are Donna Alexander, Crenshaw elementary; Pat Reis, Edison elementary; and Rita Wells, Crenshaw.

Name Six Grade School Winners at Speech Meet

Six elementary school students from Torrance were awarded superior certificates at the first speech tournament held at North High for incoming freshmen recently.

Three of the six winners were from Carr School. They are Julie Frese, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Frese, 17032 Delia; Kathy Lattin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Lattin, 16830 Thornberg, and Martin Steiner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Reis, 17213 Yukon.

Two winners from Crenshaw Elementary are Donna Alexander, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Alexander, 18808 Arlington, and Rita Wells, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Wells, 18428 Falda. The winner from Edison Elementary was Patrick Reis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Reis, 3917 W. 187th St.

Tournament was held to introduce the eighth graders to speech activities on the high school level. This was the first tournament of this type to be held in the Torrance district. The tournament was under the direction of Lehr R. Mushrush, North High's head speech coach and president of the Southern California Debate League.

Schools entering students were Arlington, Crenshaw, Casimir, Madison, Yukon, Lincoln, Carr, Hamilton, Edison, and Perry. There were 19 excellent award winners, they were: Dennis De Leon, Linda Davis, Vaughn Neville, Debbie Casimir, Ron Norad, Shirley Pletty, Wes Clanin, Stanley Sorenson, Barbara Brodsky, Karen Gibson, Ellen Bryden, Nancy Coons, Sue Cameron, Jackie Maxwell, Joyce Lenecker, Judy Jackson, Terry Updike and Jack Spaw.



R. S. Pyle, your Telephone Manager in Torrance

WHAT'S DOING

During this week, our community's churches will join those from throughout the nation and the world in special worship services which will conclude Sunday, April 21, Easter Sunday.

We hope that you will join the thousands of Pacific Telephone employees in attending the church of your choice.

Easter time also seems to bring out a gamut of splashes of Spring Color from the hillsides which this year are covered with bountiful amounts of wildflowers, to gaily decorated Easter eggs and baskets, to milady's new Spring frock and hat.

The annual observance is a time when many families get together, but if distance separates you from your loved ones, may we suggest a telephone call?

While on the subject of color, Pacific Telephone Co. has an array of telephones in different styles in a multitude of pleasing hues and colors to match your home's interior.

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Pacific Telephone

Storm Drains in Fourth District Worked Well During Recent Rains, Says Chace

The 180 storm drains built as a part of two bond issues, performed in a highly satisfactory manner during the recent rainy season, Supervisor Burton W. Chace disclosed last week.

A progress report filed with the Board of Supervisors by County Flood Control District Chief Engineer M. E. Salsbury stated that 130 projects have been built under the 1952 program and 50 have been constructed as a part of the 1958 bond issue.

In reviewing the report, Supervisor Chace said only 10 of the 1952 projects are unfinished with seven of these presently built and the remaining three ready for a construction start this summer.

Of the 1958 program, 104

projects have been completed, are under construction, or are awaiting award of contract. This represents about 56.5 per cent of the total program and indicates it is making satisfactory progress, Chace declared.

Flood Control District officials have estimated that by next winter, seven more 1952 projects and 27 additional 1958 drains will be in operation to handle runoff.

CRITICAL

Chace said the two programs called for construction of 324 critically needed storm drains at a total cost of \$404 million.

In the Fourth Supervisorial District, all projects under the 1952 program have been completed, are presently being built, or will be under construction by summer.

Figures on the 1958 pro-

gram for the Fourth District indicate that 10 projects have been completed and work has been finished on units of two other drains. Under construction at the present time are seven projects and units of six others. In addition, contracts are expected to be awarded on 2 other projects shortly.

Areas affected by these drainage facilities include Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills Estates, Torrance, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes Estates and Waverly.

Supervisor Chace pointed out that, while the storm drain construction programs have been making excellent progress, there are many areas in the county where additional facilities will have to be provided.

The need for local drainage carriers is likely to be a problem for as long as the area continues to grow, the Supervisor added.

Union Gives OK To L.A. School Board President

Unanimous endorsement was given last Thursday by the AFL-CIO to Dr. Ralph Richardson, Los Angeles City Board of Education president and candidate for State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

"I am both proud and encouraged," Dr. Richardson said, "in receiving the wholehearted support of the state AFL-CIO. 'I welcome the encouragement and advice of all citizens in our campaign to bring quality education to California public schools.'"

Supervisor Urges Governor to OK Bill Exempting County From Tax

Signature by the Governor of a Bill which would save Los Angeles County taxpayers upwards of \$120,000 annually was urged this week by County Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

The Supervisor was supported by his colleagues on the Board when he told them the county is still paying taxes on drugs dispensed on the prescription of a physician by a pharmacist at county hospitals to the tune of \$480 per day.

The Legislature, during the 1961 session, passed a bill, which subsequently became laws, exempting private citizens from the payment of sales taxes on medical prescriptions.

"It seems however," Chace said, "that the bill was not clear as to whether counties should continue to pay, and as a result the state has continued to collect the tax even though it later reimburses one per cent to the county."



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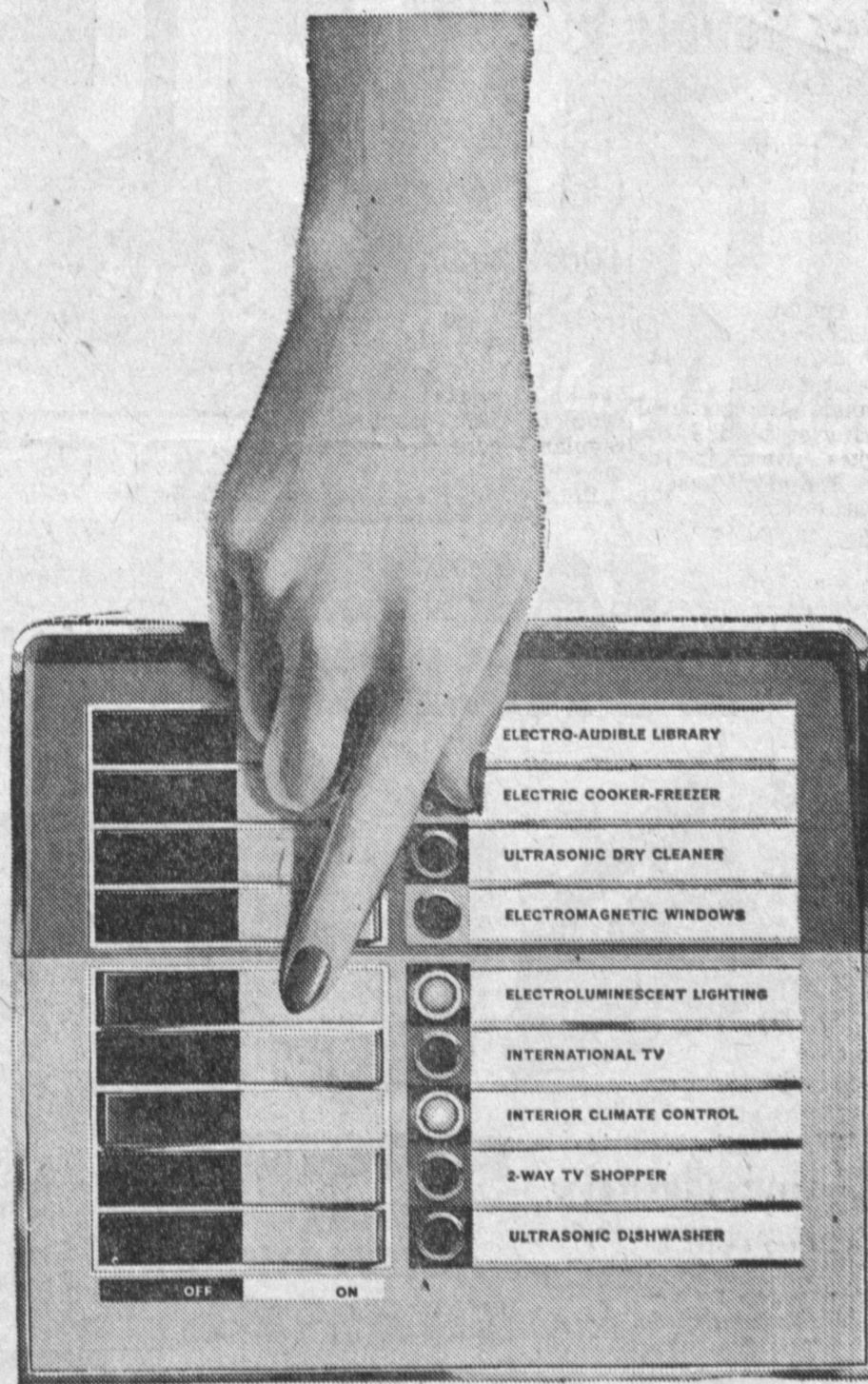
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