



# TORRANCE PRESS

## EDITORIAL PAGE

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### Anti-Drinking Ordinances Needed for Torrance Beaches

An ordinance recently passed by the city of Hermosa Beach, which prohibits drinking on the beaches, is a far-sighted and enlightened piece of legislation.

However, it has one near-fatal drawback.

There is nothing to prevent the seaside drinkers from picking up their six-packs and moving to adjoining beach areas, within the corporate limits of other cities, where the ordinance does not apply.

It is to be hoped that similar ordinances will be passed by the Torrance and Redondo Beach councils before the period of permanent beach weather and the heavy crowding of local swimming areas.

We feel that, on all public property, beaches and parks alike, there is a question of public liability.

Drinking is not allowed in public parks because there is a risk of damage to property, and to adults and children who frequent the play areas.

The same regulations should apply

to public beaches . . . and for the same reasons.

Also to be considered is the possibility that the drinker may damage himself.

#### DANGEROUS

The water, even at its most placid moments, can be a dangerous opponent. This danger is increased many-fold when the swimmer's judgment has been modified by a few drinks.

Another factor to be considered is the cost of cleaning up after the parties. Empty bottles and cans strewn about a beach must be picked up and the cost is borne by the taxpayers.

Most of all, the problem of allowing drinking around children is there.

The beaches are there to be enjoyed by everyone.

Every effort should be made to keep them pleasant and informal and an asset to a community.

A few drinkers . . . and a bad reputation . . . could ruin them as this community's prime recreational areas.



**AS SPOKESMAN** for the special committee to stage the Carson Chamber of Commerce Community Building Fund on June 23 in Retail Clerks Hall, Harbor City, Sak Yamamoto accepts the best wishes for success from Supervisor Burton W. Chace, who said he plans to attend himself. Serving with Yamamoto on the committee are Raymond Walker and Chief Paul Schneider. Proceeds from the ticket sales, which got off to a good start last week, will be used to start construction on a community building to be available to all local organizations and public gatherings.

### Ballot Gives Voter Right to Participate In California's Legislative Processes

By ASSEMBLYMAN VINCENT THOMAS

Every California voter has the legal opportunity to participate personally in the legislative process by voting on proposed constitutional amendments and state bond issues. None of us should neglect his responsibility to cast his ballot on such proposals.

During the weeks of our 1962 sessions, I referred frequently in this column to the bond issues for various purposes which were before us. All four new bond proposals, as well as one which

we passed in 1961, are to go on the June 5 primary Election ballot.

So many constituents have asked that I review the bond proposals again that I am taking advantage of this opportunity to do so.

Proposition No. 1 on the June Ballot is a \$200 million bond issue to continue the school building loan program started in 1949. Revenues from sale of the bonds would be used to make loans to school districts which have already bonded themselves locally to the legal maximum, but which still need more funds to build classrooms for unhouse pupils.

#### ARGUMENT

The argument for approval of this measure can be briefed quickly. A half million more pupils are expected to enter our public schools by 1964. To build the rooms to hold them during 1963 and 1964, \$200 million will be needed.

Arguments against the measure are short. First, the amount is too low; it should be \$250 million. Second, the measure should have been put on the November ballot, so more voters could pass on it.

Proposition No. 2 calls for a bond issue of \$250 million to continue the Cal-Vet program of loans to veterans for the purchase of farms and homes.

The arguments for this bond issue are, first, that the program is self-supporting since both principal and interest on the bonds is paid by the veterans who receive the loans. Second, there are still 380,000 California veterans who have verified their eligibility for loans, but have not yet had the opportunity to get them.

Arguments against the measure are two. First, the potential debt involved in the program is almost \$4 billion. If bad times were to hit, so veterans could not repay their loans, taxpayers would be in serious trouble. Second, it's too costly a program to benefit only 125,000 individuals out of 16 million

Californians. Proposition No. 3 is for a \$270 million issue for general state buildings. Arguments for it are also two. First, since 65 percent of the general fund revenues are committed to local assistance, no more funds can be expected from it during the next two years for building needs. Second, 80 percent of the revenues from this issue will be needed to meet the needs of the University and colleges, the balance for mental hospitals and correctional facilities.

#### AGAINST

Principal arguments against the bonds are, first, that approval of the issue would give the Legislature a blank check for the total amount, to spend anyway it wishes. Second, it would be cheaper to build on a pay-as-you-go basis, since interest adds 50 percent to the cost of building with bond money.

Proposition No. 4 is a \$100 million bond issue for loans to local agencies for low-cost housing for elderly and handicapped persons. Arguments for it are that it would relieve taxpayers of much expense for hospitals and other institutions by taking the elderly, low-income persons out of slums, and that the number of elderly individuals will increase by a third in the next ten years.

Arguments against it are, first, a federal program now provides ample housing for the elderly, and second, the proposed \$100 million would provide less than 10,000 units of housing for a privileged few of all the elderly.

Proposition No. 5 calls for a \$150 million bond issue for parks and recreation. The principal argument for it is that we must act now to buy the land cheaply for our rapidly growing recreational needs. The main argument against it is that it would deprive the very counties in which more lands would be bought of tax revenues necessary for their efficient operation.

### Median Strip Barriers Reduce Freeway Deaths

Several lives already have been saved by the installation of median barriers on the Harbor Freeway, supervisors pointed out last week.

Evidence of this is seen in numerous bulges in the chain-link fencing where speeding vehicles have slammed into the barriers only days, sometimes hours, after they were installed.

"If those cars hadn't hit the barriers they would surely have jumped the di-

vider and crashed head-on into opposing traffic," they said. "That type of head-on collision usually causes fatalities."

Thus far, no vehicle has jumped or crashed through the new fences.

"Latest counts show that 77 persons have died on the Harbor Freeway since it was built in 1954." They observed. "We're confident that these median barriers will hold that tragic toll to a minimum."

### Republican Group OK's Bruinsma For Assembly

Endorsement of Ted Bruinsma by the California Republican Assembly was announced today by Fred Hall, president of the statewide organization.

Ted Bruinsma is a Republican candidate for Congress in the 17th District.

In giving the basis for Bruinsma's endorsement, Hall said, "You appear to have endorsement of all the peoples in your Congressional District. On the strength of these local endorsements, you have the California Republican Assembly."

### County Ends Ancient Law; No Mountain Lion Bounty

Venerable county bounty hunters today laid down their two-barrelled shotguns in final admission that a mountain lion bagged within the confines of Los Angeles County isn't worth his skin.

County Bounty Ordinance 1547 has been repealed, reports Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

The ordinance, passed in 1928, allowed a fella to pick up a cool \$50 simply for dropping a crafty cat in his tracks and turning the pelt over to county officials.

The ordinance was adopted to protect the booming Los Angeles County cattle industry from feline trespassers.

Although almost 200 pelts were turned in during the early years the ordinance

was in effect, the bounty business dropped off sharply as Los Angeles grew. Supervisor Hahn told a group of high school boys during "Boys Day in Government" Tuesday, May 1.

Even the few hides submitted in the last decade were suspected of being from a cat who died of either old age or boredom.

Today, there are few cattle in Los Angeles County. There's even fewer mountain lions—and the ones that still reside here refuse to risk the perils of freeway traffic for a steak on the hoof.

Thus, on Tuesday, the Department of Parks and Recreation recommended that the Bounty Ordinance be repealed.

The County Fish and

### Propositions, Totalling \$128,000,000, Placed On Ballot By LA City Schools

The \$128,000,000 Los Angeles City school bond building program and tax ceiling increase, which will be on the June 5 primary election ballot, will be known as Propositions A, B, C, it was announced today by Superintendent of Schools Jack P. Crowther.

The superintendent stated the funds represented by the requests are needed for expansion of classroom facilities and to cover operating expenses in the district's more than 580 schools.

Approval of Proposition A will allow the investment of \$104.8 million for student facilities in the Los Angeles Unified School District—covering elementary and junior and senior high schools and adult education schools.

The remainder of the bond issue, which will be covered by Proposition B, will provide for expansion of Los Angeles' junior college system. This phase totals \$24 million.

The 60-cent increase in the tax ceiling, which is Proposition C on the ballot, would raise the present \$2.65 maximum to \$3.25 on each \$100 of assessed property valuation. The superintendent said it would apply only for expenses in operation of elementary, junior and senior high schools. No tax ceiling increase was recommended for the system's junior colleges.

In tracing the estimated school district enrollment increase over the next five years, Crowther predicted

the present enrollment of 675,000 will soar to approximately 800,000 by 1966-67.

"These funds represent a 'rock bottom' program of classroom construction in order to accommodate the throngs of new students who will be entering our schools during the next five years," Superintendent Crowther emphasized.

For both districts the proposed bond program would be invested in this manner: Of the unified district total, \$44,400,000 is provided for elementary school construction and \$60,400,000 has been labeled for junior and senior high schools.

The elementary bond issue is divided this way: land—\$5,503,000; new schools—\$9,650,000; additions at existing schools—\$20,273,740; advance planning—\$500,000; alterations and improvements—\$5,111,000; equipment—\$1,574,000; administrative facilities—\$458,000; bond expenses—\$375,750; and contingency fund—\$954,510.

The secondary school program is divided this way: land—\$4,891,000; new schools—\$27,707,000; additions to existing schools—\$14,938,000; alterations and improvements—\$6,298,000; equipment—\$2,540,000; advance planning—\$1,600,000; administrative facilities—\$459,000; bond expense—\$375,750; and contingency

fund—\$1,299,250.

The junior college issue calls for this division: new college—\$6,269,000; additions at existing colleges—\$16,531,000; alterations and improvements—\$240,000; equipment—\$200,000; advance planning—\$173,000; administrative facilities—\$78,000; bond expense—\$83,500; and contingency fund—\$345,500.

Also earmarked in the proposed plans is \$372,000 for adult education projects. This includes construction of 12 bungalow classrooms for adult school day time classes, building rehabilitation for adult classes, and adult education office improvements.

Purchase of new land for the elementary district includes acquisition of six new sites and additions to 38 other school sites now in operation throughout the district.

Land purchase for the secondary division includes acquisition of one new site for a high school and additions to 12 other junior and senior high schools.

No land is being purchased for junior college or adult school buildings.

Twenty complete new schools are scheduled to be built under terms of the bond issue. This will include 11 elementary schools, eight secondary schools, and one junior college.

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