

# The Board's Reaction: 'Cut the Budget'

## Torrance Press-Herald

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**WELCOME ABOARD . . .** Dr. Kurt Shery (far right) performed his last duty as president of the Torrance Board of Education Monday evening by swearing in Dr. Donald E. Wilson, newly elected member of the board. Looking on are William J. Hanson and Bert M. Lynn, who began their second four-year terms Monday. (Press-Herald Photo)

## Unruly Mob Threatens Officers in Dope Raid

### Council Orders Street Out of Hospital Site

City Councilmen removed a portion of Maricopa Street from the Victor Precinct master plan last night, thereby leaving the site of the Little Company of Mary Hospital intact. The hospital sought an amendment to the street plan in order to avoid separation of planned new facilities from the original site.

The action is subject to the granting of necessary drainage and sewage easements across the hospital property. Thomas M. Collins, attorney for the Little Company of Mary Hospital, said the easements could be granted.

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MRS. KENNETH E. WATTS  
Board President

### Mrs. Watts President Of Board

Mrs. Kenneth E. "Polly" Watts was elected to succeed Dr. Kurt Shery as president of the Board of Education Monday evening. Mrs. Watts served as vice president last year.

Board members named William J. Hanson as vice president for the coming year.

The new president is the mother of two teenage daughters, Caroline, 15, who is a sophomore at South High, and Laurie, 13, who will graduate from Parkway Elementary School in June. The family resides at 145 Via Monte d'Oro.

The new president's husband, Kenneth E. Watts, is a sailmaker in Torrance.

A MEMBER of the Advisory Board of the Palos Verdes State College, Mrs. Watts also is active in the South Bay Girl Scouts Council and the Torrance League of Women Voters. She is a member of the Parkway and South High PTAs. The family attends the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection.

Born in Nebraska, Mrs. Watts came to California with her family when she was 7 years of age. She attended Long Beach public schools and Long Beach City College, then entered Long Beach Secretarial College.

FOR THREE years, she attended the International Language School in Washington, D. C.

A Torrance resident for the past 18 years, Mrs. Watts was named the city's Citizen of the Year for 1962. She was first elected to the Board of Education in April, 1963.

Hanson, laboratory supervisor for the Dow Chemical Co.'s Torrance facility, was elected to his second term on the board in balloting last month. He is a past president of the board.

### Cambridge Bound

Darrell R. Johnson, 2119 Mathews Ave., Redondo Beach, is one of 18 University of Southern California students selected to attend Cambridge University in England in July. This will be the fifth summer that USC has sent a group of top students to Cambridge for study.

### Police Making Arrest Subject To Mob Threat

A 45-minute battle between an estimated 150 to 200 residents of the city's "Pueblo" district and more than a score of law enforcement officers ended Monday night with the arrest of two persons on charges of sale and possession of heroin, and two others for interfering with a police officer.

Responding to the call for help broadcast by vice squad officers seeking to make the arrest were 23 officers from Torrance and neighboring police departments and from the Lennox and Firestone Sheriff's substations.

THE MOB attack began during the supper hour Monday when undercover officers from Torrance and the sheriff's vice detail raided a Pueblo residence at 2250 Del Amo Blvd. The crowd assembled as the officers sought to take two suspects into custody.

The near riot boiled for about 45 minutes as the angry residents armed themselves with sticks, rocks and ball bats.

None of the officers was injured although one uniformed policeman was reported to have been struck on the head with a stone.

ARRESTED AND booked on charges of violating the state narcotics code were Edward V. Grande, 23, and his wife, Katherine Ann, 29, both of 2250 Del Amo Blvd. Officers making the raid reported confiscation of 39 grams of heroin, packed in half-gram lots, in the raid. The street value of the dope was placed at \$1,200.

The raid on the Grande residence followed an undercover investigation which had been underway for two months. Several narcotics purchases were reportedly made by officers during the investigation.

In addition to the Grande couple, police arrested 12-year-old Jason H. Castillo of 2815 Alberta St., and a 13-year-old on charges of interfering with a police officer.

### Fireworks Will Start Observance

Five-year-olds David, Daniel, and DeWayne Watson, triplet sons of Mr. and Mrs. John Watson of 3126 W. 157th St., have taken a preview look at fireworks excitement due to explode in the city May 14.

Helping the triplets to enjoy a safe preview was City Clerk Vernon W. Coil, Armed Forces Day pyrotechnics chairman.

Charles T. Hitch, assistant secretary of defense and grand marshal for the Armed Forces Day parade, will touch off the first burst at 8:30 p.m. Friday, May 14, to signal the official start of the sixth annual Armed Forces Day celebration.

ALTHOUGH the lively show will be visible from most parts of the city, officials recommend civic center viewing positions. Families will be able to see the special display designed to honor Hitch at the civic center location.

The pyrotechnic display has been donated to the city by the Red Devil Fireworks Co., which supplies many booths in Torrance during the Fourth of July celebration. The fireworks are typical of those supplied by Red Devil for displays at Disneyland, the New York and Seattle World's Fairs, and the Rose Bowl.

## Four-Year Estimate Of Spending Sought

Major cuts in the 1965-66 Torrance school budget have been ordered by the Board of Education before any hearings are held on the massive document.

Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts, newly elected president of the board, told Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, and his staff to "give us recommendations for cuts before we schedule a special budget meeting."

"I was just floored by this figure," Mrs. Watts said.

THE PRELIMINARY budget, which must be adopted prior to July 1, called for expenditures of \$18,450,000 during the next fiscal year. It provides for no increase in teachers' salaries and would require an appropriation of nearly \$600,000 from the general fund surplus if no increase in the 33.03 tax rate is voted.

William J. Hanson called for a "fairly comprehensive" projection of expenditures during the next four years when the budget is actually considered by the board. Hanson said the four-year projection "is essential to plan our spending so we won't have to go back to the people."

A 90-cent tax override approved by district voters in February, 1964, will be available during the next four years.

### For Summer Leaders Take 'Y' Classes

Weekly brush-up sessions are now being conducted by the Torrance Family YMCA for members of the Leaders' Club in preparation for the summer camping program.

The refresher course, which will be given in five sessions, covers such subjects as camp hygiene, campfire skills, cabin comradeship, and cabin devotions.

Since last October, young people in the Torrance YMCA have been attending Leaders' Club sessions twice each month. Persons who are qualified will be placed in one of five resident camps for children 9 to 12 years of age or be assigned to the caravans, pack trips, river trips, or family camps.

Leaders are assigned to the resident camps and other YMCA activities during the summer to assist with a variety of tasks. Many of the leaders first experienced the YMCA program as campers.

TRUSTEES did some small cutting of their own last night, whacking about \$1,000 from the new budget by denying two out-of-state trips for administrators.

The board refused permission for Dr. Hull to attend an American Association of School Administrators conference on new federal legislation in Washington May 14 and 15, then refused to let Dr. Louis Kaplan, assistant superintendent for special services, attend an institute for pupil personnel administrators at Harvard University in the summer.

The board did authorize Mrs. Gertrude Aldershof to attend a Columbia University conference on "Children and their Curriculum" July 6 to 16.

Copies of the budget are in all five Torrance libraries. The documents will be revised as changes are made.

THE VOTE was 4-2, with Mayor Albert Isen absent from the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Ken Miller conducted the four-hour session.

In a letter which he read to the council, Collins said the hospital had purchased the property and planned the additions unaware of the planned extension of Maricopa Street. When the hospital was denied a building permit until street dedications were made, hospital officials investigated several alternatives, Collins said.

Separation of the additions from the original hospital would require a second hospital license and a duplication of the facilities on both sites, Collins told the council. Acquisition of land to the east and various types of construction to connect the two facilities were investigated and proved unsatisfactory, he added.

REFERRING TO a recommendation by the city's Planning Department that Maricopa Street be left on the master plan, Collins said the report gave "no significance to the type of facility and treats the hospital with disdain as an ordinary commercial development."

"The uninterrupted expansion of the hospital complex is clearly of the greatest benefit to the community," Collins said.

Councilman J. A. Beasley, voting to remove the street from the plan, recalled the efforts of the entire community to open the hospital. "I don't think there is a person in the community who didn't help," Beasley said.

"There is a need for some adjustment of the master plan," Miller commented. "The over-all good of the community is at stake."

Efforts to refer the matter to a committee for additional study — with the proviso that the hospital site not be bisected — failed by the same 4-2 vote which approved the amendment to the master plan.



**TRAINING CLASS . . .** The Torrance Family YMCA presently is conducting refresher classes for members of the Leaders' Club in preparation for the summer camping program. Discussing some of the problems faced by members of the Leaders' Club are, from left, Jim Griffin, a senior at South High; Buzz Adams, an adult leader; Carol Stolley, a "Y" worker, and Paul England, YMCA staff member. (Press-Herald Photo)

### Bank Plans Founder's Day Salute

Torrance area employees of the Bank of America will participate in ceremonies honoring the bank's founder, the late A. P. Giannini, tomorrow.

Similar Founder's Day observances will be held in the bank's branches throughout the world in tribute to the man who founded the San Francisco based firm in 1940. The observances have been conducted annually on May 6 since Giannini's death in 1949.