

on, and their beautification as parkways would have a very enhancing value. In the joint agreement, nearly completed, between the city and the Pacific Electric, the realization of this project may be expected. Again has the value of good will and corporate cooperation been demonstrated.

SEPULVEDA BOULEVARD: One of the most important trunk highway projects in the county is Sepulveda Boulevard. This great regional highway, originating in the northern part of San Fernando Valley, follows the line of least resistance through the Santa Monica mountains, using Sepulveda Canyon, after which it is named, and then a direct coast paralleling route finally connecting up with Camino Real, and through Torrance on the old Long Beach-Redondo Boulevard route. Many links in this important thoroughfare have already been completed, including the tunnel in Sepulveda Canyon under Mulholland Drive. A great deal of effort has been expended by this bureau and our administration seeking the necessary widening for the thoroughfare in the Torrance district by voluntary dedication. It appears, however, that this effort is not going to be successful and that the city will have to institute condemnation proceedings to acquire the right-of-way. When completed, this project will afford direct connections with the state highways on the north and south. Actual improvement will probably not be possible for one or two years.

SOCIAL SERVICE WORK: One of the very much appreciated initiative activities of this bureau has been the continued program of social service work. This service extends to every newcomer, a good will welcome and the furnishing of information regarding religious, fraternal, educational and social desires which the new resident may wish to become affiliated with. Many personal expressions of appreciation by newcomers have been received as a result of this service, and the usual commentary is to the effect that this is a unique and pleasing facility such as one does not commonly receive when becoming a stranger within new gates. The forms used incidentally provide a constantly revised city directory, and the by-product of the activity is likewise invaluable for general reference and commercial benefits.

HEALTH CENTER PROJECT: A great deal of time has been consumed by administrative and civic representatives, who, in joint cooperation with various county authorities, have fostered and championed the proposed local county civic center, to embrace the health and welfare activities of the district, together with other county units. Approximately eight thousand dollars from the promotion fund of the city has been contributed toward the acquisition of the site adjoining the American Legion property on Carson Street, which has been proposed as the site for the county improvements. The current annual report of Los Angeles County embraces the perspective of the first unit of this planned building group, to be used for the health and welfare activities. Working drawings for this building may be seen at the local chamber offices, and when constructed will constitute one of the most edifying structures in the community. Due to the present trying economic conditions a definite budget allotment in the current county program has not been designated for the construction of this improvement. However, assuring confidences of county department heads is felt sure to make the realization of the program possible this year.

PARK PROJECT PROPOSAL: For several years citizen groups and committees of this bureau have dedicated untiring efforts to develop ways and means of securing much needed park and recreational development for this city. The chamber's committee sought recently to have a bond program approved by local citizens, which, if consummated successfully, would have provided a splendid park development with its attendant economic, social and recreational benefits. Unfortunately, through the offers of proposed site locations a great deal of public misunderstanding ensued, resulting in the defeat at the time of election of the necessary two-thirds vote in favor. Due to the potential oil value on certain outlying properties, and multiple ownership in other usable locations, the matter of securing definite options or determining on a particular site with unanimity were the contributing factors which also, unfortunately, disturbed the public confidence in the question. The committees and the board of directors of this bureau, have never advocated any particular site, but have viewed the need for a park in its larger aspect, and today, as always, urge the good people of Torrance to likewise recognize and satisfy this need. Torrance will never balance its community development until it rounds out the program of a well developed park embracing facilities for every type of desire and service which young and old desire. The experience of every American city offers conclusive testimony that a good park is its most indispensable social service. It is in such quarters, under the informal atmosphere which the outdoor lends, where you get better acquainted