

Torrance Herald



Application made for entry as second-class matter

VOLUME I, NUMBER 5

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, JANUARY 30, 1914

5 GENTS PER COPY; \$1.50 PER YEAR

DIESEL ENGINE WILL BE MADE BY THE UNION TOOL CO.

\$500,000 TO BE SPENT ON IMPROVEMENTS AND 200 MORE MEN GIVEN EMPLOYMENT.

By contract closed recently with Andrew Weir and J. Tilden Smith of London as representatives of Baumeister & Wain of Copenhagen, the Union Tool Company of Torrance acquired the exclusive right for the manufacture and sale of the Diesel engine on the west coast of North and South America, the rights for the United States including all the territory west of the Mississippi river. It will build the engine here for all that vast territory.

The Diesel engine, using fuel oil instead of gasoline, promises to revolutionize marine engineering and for general use it is regarded as the most economical engine yet made. The deal entered into yesterday assures the rapid development in Torrance of one of the big industrial plants of the country, and a marked expansion in the demand for fuel oil, a Southern California product.

Will Enlarge Plant.

Edward Double, president and general manager of the Union Tool Company, stated last night that the paid-up capital stock of the company will be increased at once from \$1,200,000 to \$2,500,000; that \$500,000 approximately will be spent in enlarging the plant at Torrance and equipping it with the necessary new machinery; that between 200 and 250 more men will be given employment as soon as the manufacture of engines is in full swing; and that the first engine probably will be turned out in ninety days and in four months the plant will be running at full capacity.

J. Knudson, the Copenhagen engineer whose improvements adapted the Diesel engine to marine use, and managing director of Baumeister & Wain, owner of the patents for those improvements, is on the way to Torrance to oversee the installation of the machinery and the beginning of the manufacture of the engines.

First in This Country.

The contract closed yesterday will give Torrance the first Diesel engine plant in the United States.

Andrew Weir and J. Tilden Smith have been negotiating with the Union Oil Company, on behalf of the General Petroleum Company, now in control of a British syndicate, for a contract of fuel oil to add to the supply which they will deliver to Los Angeles harbor through the pipe line from the Midway fields. The contract proposed is for a long term of years and probably will be closed early next week.

Andrew Weir & Co. of London already operate a number of tank ships and the syndicate which has taken over the General Petroleum Company and may assume the option on Union Oil is building a large number of additional tank steamships. The plan is to use these in carrying California oil from Los Angeles harbor through the Panama Canal to all parts of the world.

Weir and his associates in the syndicate, are stockholders in the firm of Baumeister & Wain and they believe the new fuel-oil-consuming engine is destined to drive the steam engine off

the high seas and that in consequence within a comparatively short time the consumption of oil will be multiplied many times.

Friendly Relations Indicated.

The Union Tool Company is subsidiary to the Union Oil Company and the exclusive rights acquired by it point to friendly relations at least between the new British syndicate and the Union Oil Company. The tool company has confined its operations in the past to the manufacture of oil well supplies. Its Torrance plant employs 600 men.

"We will begin work enlarging the Torrance plant at once," said President Double last night.

"We will manufacture engines for the entire territory acquired and the plant will be increased as the demand for the engine grows. In the first year we will be able to build engines totaling about 100,000 horsepower. We will make from 25 horsepower up to the big engines for ships, and we expect a large demand for all types."

The Union Tool Company will commence building operations on the enlargement of the plant within sixty days. The expenditures for building and machinery alone will run from \$200,000 to \$300,000. The new structures will be erected on the north side of the present buildings.

It is rumored that Andrew Weir and associates are planning the erection of a large shipbuilding yard at the harbor for the building of ships to use the Diesel engines. The Union Tool Company will build the Diesel engine for the general market for all purposes as well as the huge motors for ocean-going vessels.

TORRANCE NEEDS TO FORM PARENT-TEACHERS ASSN.

Torrance needs a Parent-Teachers Association. Our schools should be looked after by such a body. Do the parents of the children know how our school is being run—whether they are getting the best out of it unless the mothers of Torrance get busy we will be behind the other schools so far. Every school in Los Angeles is visited regularly and looked after by the mothers and Torrance should not be behind the times. Get busy and start one here—your mothers.

LADIES AID SOCIETY

On Thursday, Jan. 22nd, the Ladies Aid met at the home of Mrs. Butts. Sixteen ladies were present and three new names were added to the roll. It was decided to hold a food sale on Saturday, Jan. 31.

Refreshments were served and all spent a very enjoyable afternoon.

The next meeting will be held with Mrs. Brown on Gramercy avenue on Thursday, Feb. 5, 1914.

REVIVAL SERVICES

Messrs. Eldridge and Acock will commence a series of revival services beginning next Sunday at the Mission. It is hoped that a large attendance will be present.

PUPILS ORGANIZE A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HERMOSA BEACH—Pupils of the Hermosa Beach grammar school have organized a "chamber of commerce" with the view of looking after the best interests of the pupils.

SYSTEMATIC CAMPAIGN IN HOUSING PROBLEM

Thomas D. Campbell and company are to entertain a number of the employees and their wives of the Pacific Metal Products Company Saturday evening, Jan. 31. The guests have been invited to assemble at Campbell hall as soon as convenient after the working hours of the plant. The object of the meeting will be to present a plan in regard to living at Torrance and inspection of the available homes will be made, after which supper will be served and an evening's entertainment provided for those who are able to remain over.

Thomas D. Campbell and company as selling agents of Torrance are alive to the needs of the operatives of the factories and are making every effort

which will lead to the establishment of loyal Torrance citizens here in comfort, and on a minimum basis of economy. The meeting of this Saturday afternoon will undoubtedly be followed by others of interest to the employees of the other plants.

Francis L. Riordan, tract manager at Torrance for the company, will devote the lunch hour, 12 to 1 o'clock, each day to this subject and will be prepared to give all desired information relative to the housing problem to those desirous of locating in Torrance so as to be close to their place of employment and avoid many of the inconveniences and difficulties of having the family living at a distance from the work place.

Chambers Met Here Yesterday

A business meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held in Campbell Hall, Wednesday afternoon.

The meeting was called to order and presided over by Harry A. Marx, resident of the Torrance Chamber.

The following delegates were present: D. R. Woods and E. Opp, Wilmington; J. S. Miller, Avalon; E. O. Talley, Manhattan; C. A. Dougherty, S. S. Thatcher, El Segundo; T. W. Jordan, R. T. Cooper, I. P. Luxford, Hermosa Beach; J. E. Howell, T. H. ones, Santa Monica; R. L. Bisby, resident, Long Beach; W. A. Whetton, Secretary, Redondo Beach; Harry A. Marx, G. W. Finney, Torrance.

The following members from Torrance were present: Torrance C. Velsh, Sidney G. Moyse, Sam Rapaport, John Salm, Norman A. Leake and W. C. Dolley.

One of the topics discussed during the afternoon was the Playa Del Rey boulevard.

This boulevard would make one of the most beautiful beach driveways in the state. It would not only connect all beach towns, but would be miles of riding with the ever restlessness of ocean on one side and the rugged bluffs and rolling hills on the other.

It would add to the many attractions of our already attractive southern sunny California, for it would be a pleasant and invigorating ride at all seasons of the year.

The other subject discussed by the delegates and members of the chamber was ways and means by which to control the water in the Los Angeles and San Gabriel rivers in time of floods.

Mr. Wood, of Wilmington, gave a very interesting talk on this subject, and when we stop to think of the many lives that are lost in these rivers every few winters it seems no stone should be left unturned to remedy the matter.

Could every one only see and realize the damage done to property along these waters they would surely lend their every assistance to prevent a repetition of this destruction year after year.

Mr. Woods certainly has the welfare of the people and property at heart when he undertakes to gain assistance in curbing the flow of these two treacherous rivers.

Many a farm that bordered on the banks of the San Gabriel river that was once fertile and productive, now lies a waste of sandy river bed, so we trust that every one who can will do all in their power to assist in devising ways and means by which this can be accomplished.

The matter will be taken up more extensively at the next meeting, which will be held in February, either at Santa Monica or Long Beach.

Owe it to Torrance All Register Now

Mr. A. M. Stout, the deputy county clerk, who is now registering the voters, reports very slow progress on account of the rain. Mr. Stout states that the county supervisors will have to be shown a goodly number of voters before they will designate a polling place at Torrance and that it takes the supervisors many weeks to investigate and make up their minds whether to do it or not. Now then, if the ladies and gentlemen in Tor-

rance will come in and register within the next week or so, and we can show sufficient interest, we probably will not have to walk to Lomita to vote, which under present conditions we will have to do. Many of the ladies in Torrance have refused to register, claiming they have no interest in woman's suffrage, elections, etc. These ladies must be on the wrong track and should do their duty regardless of their beliefs for the good of Tor-

rance. We certainly should have a voting precinct here. The time will come when every man and woman will want to vote. If we all refuse to vote Lomita will take charge of the town and run it for us. So do your duty toward Torrance, and do it now. This is the most important duty you have to perform toward your neighbor.

PROGRESS NOTES

New advertisers in the Torrance Herald this week are the Dominguez Land corporation, Thomas D. Campbell & Company, S. L. Ivers Company, Gardena Bakery and the Hallman Business College. Who will be on our honor list next week?

The quarterly statement of the First National Bank appears in this issue and makes an unusually good showing of business transacted by that institution.

Torrance Realty Co. reports having rented several houses, two new families moving in this week. Also the sale of Lot 6 Block 112 at \$1500 to Edgar Thompson of Long Beach, Ore. The purchaser intends to erect a garage on it in the near future.

It is reported a Los Angeles capitalist is figuring on erecting a modern store building to be located on Border avenue in front of the site selected for the Llewellyn Iron Works. Anyone desiring a lease of small store room for cigar store, barber shop or restaurant in such location address Box 7, Torrance for full information.

NEWSY LOMITA ITEMS

No serious damages from the recent rains have been reported and the farmers are predicting a prosperous year.

The Lomita Choral Society was organized January 19, 1914, in the school bungalow. This organization has been formed for the benefit of people of the community interested in music and for the seventh and eighth grades of the Lomita School. Mrs. Romburg will direct the music and the following officers were elected: President, Miss Paddock; vice president, Mr. Henry Kettler; secretary and treasurer, Miss Van Anken. Sixty people were present at the opening session. The next meeting will be held February 2.

J. H. Beckham and family have moved from Narbonne avenue to their ranch on Cherry street.

Mrs. Manuel Hearicks and daughter were visitors Saturday and Sunday of Miss Switzer and Miss Hattie Sayman in Los Angeles.

Miss Ella Richardson, principal of the Lomita schools, has purchased a house and an acre of land on Weston street, the former property of Mr. J. M. Sutton. After remodeling the house she will take possession in a few weeks.

Mr. Barney Mack and family, who moved to Oregon some time ago, are expected to return to their home in a few days.

The Aid Society of the Lomita Union Church will meet at the home of Mrs. E. W. Van Anken on Narbonne avenue Thursday afternoon, February 5.

Mrs. Patterson and little son of Fresno are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Groat.

The Lomita Christian Endeavor Society recently organized is proving itself a success already. The young people are filled with enthusiasm and have great endeavors in view. The first social was held last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Smith. Mr. Smith is the president of this society.

Rev. Shelley of Utah gave a very interesting talk on the Christian work among the Mormons at the mid-week prayer meeting.

SIGHT-SEEING EXCURSIONS TO TORRANCE VERY SOON

With the completion by the Pacific Electric railway of a line from Redondo to Torrance, new and intensely interesting loop-the-loop sight-seeing excursions will be introduced by the company.

The completion of this line will make possible a link between the west coast (Santa Monica, Venice, Playa del Rey and Redondo) with the south coast (San Pedro, Wilmington and Long Beach). It has always been necessary in the past in going from one coast to the other to return to Los Angeles, and for this reason there has been little inter-passenger traffic.

"It is not a far dream," said an official of the Pacific Electric, yesterday, "when 2000 to 3000 people will pass from the resorts in Santa Monica section to resorts adjacent to Los Angeles harbor in the Saturday and Sunday excursions and it will be very interesting to see this intertraffic pass through Torrance. The company will undoubtedly establish a new loop-the-loop sight-seeing trip which will offer a finer variety than any trip which we now operate. I expect to see this intercommunicating feeder double the business of the beaches in the summer time for the reason that residents who are summering in Venice will say: 'Let us go over to Long Beach,' while the Long Beach pleasure seeker will say: 'Let us take in the harbor and have dinner at Redondo.'"

CHOICE BLOCKS FRONTING LLEWELLYN IRON WORKS GO ON MARKET SOON

Sunday, February 8th, Thos. D. Campbell will place on the market three very choice blocks of business lots fronting on the site of the Llewellyn Iron Works. The lots are very desirable and will go very quickly. They have thirty foot frontage and are priced at about \$1200.

This property has been reserved by the Dominguez Land corporation until the present time.

Thomas D. Campbell & Company will give a big excursion on the above date for the benefit of the investing public. Full details will be given in next week's issue.

The annual meeting of the stockholders and directors of the Torrance First National Bank was held Tuesday, Jan. 13th.

An important step taken was the decision to become a member of the Federal Reserve Bank association in accordance with the new currency measure recently passed by congress. The following officers and directors were elected: Geo. W. Post, president; Geo. W. Neill, vice president and J. W. Post, cashier. The other directors elected were J. S. Torrance and A. E. Sedgwick.

S. L. Carpenter, Jr., joined the insurance department of Thos. D. Campbell this week and this department will be built up to make it one of the best in Los Angeles. The department represents five of the strongest insurance companies existing: The Phoenix of Hartford, North British Mercantile, Orient, Aetna and New Zealand, and also the Maryland Casualty Co.

Mr. Geo. Kopf, who, for some time past has been connected with the Union Tool Co., has accepted a better position with the Llewellyn Iron Works in Turk, where he expects to move his family in the near future.