

MEETING OF HAMMERTON INVESTORS

Over Fifty Lot Owners Hear Of Future Plans for City Of Hammerton

Fifty, or more lot purchasers of the Hammerton Tract with their friends who are interested in the Hammerton Co-operative Industries, met in the Post Office Building Thursday evening, and learned many things concerning the inside plans of the new city. H. H. C. Hammerton, promoter of the new city, addressed the meeting and was at his best, making the plan of his industries very plain to his audience with the aid of charts. Intimate details of the progress made thus far were given and it was the straightforward manner in which Mr. Hammerton pleaded his cause that won many over, whom it is believed, will become enthusiastic boosters.

According to contracts with the owners of the tract, 108 more lots must be sold prior to next April first on the second eighty-acre unit, the sale of which is the principal object in view by Hammerton and his associates at the present time. An active campaign is being planned and it is confidently expected by those in charge that there will be little difficulty experienced in selling the required number of lots in order to fulfill the agreement. This all depends, according to Mr. Hammerton, upon the co-operation of the people who already own lots as well as the people of Torrance, Lomita and Harbor City. "If you are satisfied with my proposition so far," said Mr. Hammerton, "then tell your friends of the plan, bring them to my office, and I will explain the details of their satisfaction; you will in this way not only help me but will also help yourself materially." He also explained that lot owners should keep their faith in the proposition and urged every lot purchaser to see that his obligations of monthly payments were promptly met, as there was not a single lot out there in the first unit of 80 acres that was not worth today considerable more than the purchase price.

The Community Building Company was explained by Mr. Bartlett in a satisfactory manner and won much support for the company. It was stated that rapid progress was being made with subscriptions for capital stock. All monies paid in for stock is placed in escrow until \$20,000.00 has been paid in, and this escrow money is drawing 4% interest. The Building Company is not a Hammerton affair, however, but as its name signifies, is a "Community" Building Company, which will finance new homes in Torrance, Lomita, Harbor City and Hammerton. The loans will be governed by the trustees of the company, from which appraisers will be appointed, who will pass upon loans. The State of California governs the operations of the company and their restrictions must be complied with.

BOWLING TEAM TO LONG BEACH

The two popular bowling teams of C. A. Paxman and Geo. W. Neill visited Long Beach Bowling Alleys Tuesday evening for their usual weekly try-outs. Scores were very close.

FROM HOLLYWOOD

D. Spurlin of Hollywood, and owner of 41 houses in Spurlin Court and elsewhere in Torrance, was a business visitor here Wednesday.

HARRY P. LITTLE GIVEN CONTRACT FOR NEW BANK BUILDING

Edifice To Be One Of Most Modern Structures In Southern California

Plans and specifications prepared for bids by A. C. Sedgwick, which were given contractors for bids, have been opened and the contract for the new Bank Building was awarded to H. P. Little of Lomita. Building operations will begin about March 1.

The bank will occupy a space 35 x 65 across the street from the Auditorium Building and is conceded to be the best business center in Torrance as it is more centrally located.

The foundation calls for one of depth and strength, the intention being to erect several more stories at a later date. The walls are to be of reinforced concrete faced with gold colored brick and composition granite. The cornice, lintels and pilasters are of ornate design and in keeping with the general plan.

The whole lower floor will be occupied by the bank proper, the interior being in marble and mahogany, the ceiling beautifully decorated in old ivory and shaded in high light, touched up with gold leaf. The indirect lighting system will be used, the chandeliers being in plaster and of the same general hue as the ceiling. When complete, it is said that as a banking room, it will be very beautifully arranged.

A commodious office and lobby space has been provided for and in the rear there will be vaults, one a safety vault for use of customers and one a storage vault in which will be kept the bank's records and books. These will be protected by the latest burglar alarm equipment.

A commodious director's room will be provided which will be used not only for meeting of bank directors but will be large enough for small meetings, such as committee meetings to which the public and bank's customers may be interested. The second story will be fitted for offices.

The capital stock of the bank was recently increased to \$50,000.00, which makes the total Capital Surplus \$75,000.00, assuring the people of Torrance and vicinity that this community has a bank and banking facilities that are in keeping with the growth of the city.

BUSINESS MEN WARNED

(From Lomita "News Letter") Evangelist Dowe in the course of his sermon Sunday night gave a gentle warning to the Business Men of Lomita, when he said, in effect "The Business men of Lomita are the finest appearing that I have met in a long time, yet they are trying to build a town without the aid of God." The truth of this assertion went "straight home" to a number of them, for with the exception of one or two, we do not believe the business men here have attended these special services. For your own benefit, the following quotation is given, just to remind you: "For what shall it profiteth a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul."—Mathew 16:26.

F. & A. M. BUILDING COMMITTEE MET LAST NIGHT

The building committee of the Masonic Lodge met Wednesday evening with their attorney to formulate plans with the intent of building a hall on their lot in Torrance.

THE FESS GROCERY VISITED BY ROBBERS

Quick Action of Night Watchman Lands Thief In Jail. Three Companions Make Escape

Falling into the arms of the ever alert Officer Voris as he stepped from the front of the Fess Grocery Store, Saturday morning at 3:00 A. M., A. R. Allen, one of the four who were quietly packing up groceries, cigars, cigarettes, etc., perhaps the greatest burglary in the history of Torrance was foiled.

Constable Voris came down the street about 3:00 o'clock in the morning on his regular beat and his attention was attracted by a new Dodge car across the street, bearing a Missouri license number 288-662. Then a noise at the grocery attracted him and as he approached the store, the "lookout" rapped upon the window to warn his companions, and then made his "get-away" around the rear of the building. Seeing the glim flicker of a lighted match inside, Voris waited patiently a few moments when Allen stepped outside. He was covered by the constable, while the two burglars inside saw their danger and shot out through the back door, over the fence, and escaped. While Voris was busy at the telephone calling up Fess, the three drove away in the machine.

The watch dog owned by Mr. Fess was locked in the store that night but was doped by the burglars. Next morning he was lying on a bundle of sacks, and refused to be aroused, suffering all day Saturday from "sleeping sickness." A fine Winchester rifle was in the rear of the store close by the case of eggs that had been carried to the front. Evidently the gun had been overlooked, as it had not been touched.

The cash register had been rifled and pried open. A twenty dollar gold piece and \$18 in silver was taken. This is practically the entire loss sustained by Mr. Fess, although several hundred dollars worth of groceries, including a case of eggs, a case of milk, a cheese, ten pounds of coffee and a quantity of six-pound cans of Crisco, Jams, Jellies and boxes of cigars, cigarettes by the cartons, etc., were stacked in front of the door, carefully packed in fancy colored laundry bags, ready to be taken out the front door and placed in their waiting machine.

The captured thief claimed they had no machine, but had come to Torrance on the P. E. cars earlier in the evening and the gang had met according to appointment. He claimed he did not know his companions but had only met them the day before in a Los Angeles street Coffee House, having arrived the day before from Bakersfield.

Voris held his prisoner until the following morning, when he took him to the county jail. Several years ago Mr. Fess was robbed of \$1000 worth of groceries when he was in the grocery business at Bell.

MARATHON CLUB MEET

Mrs. R. McCaffrey acted as hostess Tuesday evening in the Steffen hall, when refreshments were served, and a small charge was made. In this way Mrs. McCaffrey raised money for her "bit" which she turned into the fund which is to buy flags for the floor work of the Women's Benefit Association of the Macabees. Each lady present was instructed beforehand to raise money by some novel scheme for this fund and at Tuesday night's meeting recited method used. The gathering soon developed into an "experience" meeting. Something over \$25 was turned in. The next regular meeting of the Women's Benefit Association of the Macabees will be held Tuesday evening, March 1.

"JACK" GARNER INJURED

"Jack" Garner, young son of Mr. and Mrs. John Garner of Portola Ave., is recovering from an injured arm which was accidentally cut by the sharp edge of a hoe while playing. The wound is healing rapidly.

CHAUTAUQUA DATES DEFINATELY SETTLED

Dates Definitely Set For April 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 With Fine Program

I wish that I could requisition the Magic Carpet of the Arabian Nights and drop into Torrance today for a talk with you personally about the coming Chautauqua. There are times when letters seem so hopelessly inadequate and this is one of the times.

First I would sketch the program for you. There is so much to tell. It is an interesting story too. Because it deals with interesting and unusual people—quite the best talent group, we believe, that we have ever assembled. By letter I can only touch a few of the "highlights" of the program.

Foremost comes Frances Ingram. Many people have tried to discourage us in our plan of bringing this noted contralto of the Metropolitan Opera Company out to California on a Chautauqua tour. We will grant that it may not pay in dollars and cents—this season at least. We do feel that it will pay ultimately. It will be a real contribution to the cause of better music and to the upbuilding of the Chautauqua in your community.

Frances Ingram is not a "coming-great" artist. She is not a "past-great" artist. She is a great artist TODAY—said by many competent critics to be America's foremost contralto. One of the assisting artists with Miss Ingram will be Lucile Collette, a truly remarkable French violinist whose Edison records are in thousands of homes.

Then there is the big play production, "The Servant in the House" presented by the Keightley New York Players with an all-professional cast. Chief Strongheart, the prominent Indian lecture-entertainer; the Liberty Bells Company of Boston; Mary Adel Hayes' Grand Opera Singers, a company of four really big voices; Robert Parker Miles, noted dramatic lecturer; Electra Platt with the Stone-Platt-Bragers Trio, rated as the greatest lady entertainer on the Chautauqua platform; Dean Ellwood C. Perishe, late President of the State College of South Dakota. There are many others. It is a truly big program. I believe you will like it very much. Your Chautauqua dates at Torrance are now definitely scheduled for April 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19.

P.T.A. ENTERTAINMENT

The Parent-Teacher Association entertainment for tonight, February 25, has been postponed until next Friday night, March 4. Everyone is cordially invited to attend as an exceptionally good program has been arranged.

"Rudeen," the peer of all whistlers and song bird mimics will be present, this one feature alone being a great drawing card, and it is expected that the hall will be taxed for seating capacity. There will also be motion pictures, "The Son of Democracy" to be shown. The admission will be for adults 25c, and children, 10c.

CLASS SUPPER SATURDAY NIGHT

The Young Men's Bible Class of the First Baptist Sunday School will have their first Class Supper in Steffen Hall on Saturday night, the 26th, at 7:00 o'clock. The young ladies have been invited and will be entertained by the class. There will also be present some of the younger married ladies. All who may come will receive a cordial welcome. All young men who wish to be identified with this class whether they have yet attended the class or not, are earnestly invited to be present. There are a number of new members who have signified their intention to be there. A large attendance and a "big time" is anticipated. Class officers and committees will be announced at this meeting, and plans for the future will be discussed. Frank Leitner, Amel Anderson and E. T. Curran are on the committee of arrangements.

LOCAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAVE LIVELY SESSION

W. S. Rosecrans Explains Farm Bureau Plans To Large Audience

The Torrance Chamber of Commerce held their social meeting last Monday evening in Steffen Hall, and much interest was manifested in the subjects of the evening. President Andem introduced W. S. Rosecrans, Secretary of the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau, as the principal speaker of the evening who delivered a very able and instructive address on the organization and work of the Farm Bureau.

The work of the Bureau is divided into several specific departments, in each of which there are some of the best experts of the country, who freely furnish information and give demonstrations in various sections of the county. It has proven to be of immense profit to those identified with the bureau and who take advantage of this source of instruction. The revenue in money from many orchards, farms and dairies has been greatly increased. There are thirty-three Farm Bureau centers in this county. It is hoped that a centre may be established in Torrance. The Bureau is interested in, and will help all activities in farm work, orchards and dairies.

Mr. Rosecrans spoke also at length on "Gopher Control," and urged the importance of starting a campaign here to eliminate a large percentage of the gophers that are doing so much destructive work in this section. He has arranged to have a demonstration on gopher control held in Torrance, by one of their experts next Monday, the 28th, at 4:00 o'clock, on the lots opposite the Union Tool Company. Everyone who possibly can should be at this demonstration and hear what the expert has to say, and learn how to "get" the gopher. The necessary material is furnished at cost, and there will be some on sale Monday afternoon. It was the unanimous opinion of those present at the meeting, that a vigorous campaign should be started among the people of Torrance, and that there would be no lack of co-operation.

President Andem made a report regarding the proposed Vermont Boulevard from the mountains to the sea. This proposition is being endorsed and pushed by the Fourth District Chamber of Commerce, Geo. A. Proctor, president. At the last Chambers of Commerce, a committee was appointed, with representation from various chambers of commerce, to take charge of the details of this work. This committee met last Friday noon in San Pedro at a luncheon, at which time, officers and sub-committees were elected. It is said that this boulevard when built, will be the second longest in the United States. It will be of immense value to the commercial interests of all Southern California. One pleasing feature about the boulevard, as planned by the committee, is, that it will have no right angle turn.

Ten Prominent Citizens Out For Consideration of Voters At Polls

The following were nominated at a public mass meeting as candidates for trustees: Vote for five.
Geo. A. Proctor.
R. R. Smith.
J. F. Stone.
W. H. Gilbert.
J. M. Fitzhugh.
A. H. Bartlett.
H. S. McManus.
C. W. Northrup.
W. T. Klussman.
C. H. Long.
R. J. Deninger—Clerk.
Harry Dolley—Treasurer.

GREAT RESULT BY MODERATE PRICES

Forty-Three Lots and Acres Sold Since First Day Of February

The prevalent low prices of property in Torrance has had the most beneficial results, in that it has attracted people here from all sections of the United States and Canada, and those who have closed with the Dominguez Land Corporation for the month of February up to and including Monday, totals forty-four different purchasers.

There have been sold in the Torrance Tract since February 1, thirty-seven lots and six parcels in the acreage tract, amounting to forty-three, which represents forty different people, who of late have become interested in Torrance, and will build. Among those who have vouched their willingness to cast their lot with the Modern Industrial City of Torrance, come from Los Angeles, the State of Washington, three from Canada, two from Michigan State, two from South Dakota, two from Nevada, one from Ohio, one from Gardena, one from Oregon, two from Minnesota and fifteen from the city of Torrance, who either live here or work here.

Many are planning to build at once. Mr. Debrick, a recent lot purchaser in Carson street, is planning to start building operations at once for a fine home. There are eight Pacific Electric homes that are contracted for in the acreage subdivision and two more for the same company in block 28. And there are contracts already let for several more.

Mrs. C. Blackmore of Cleveland, Ohio, recently purchased Lot 17, Block 54, on Carson street, and immediately left for her Eastern home where she will negotiate certain notes, will return shortly and erect a \$4500.00 residence on her property.

Messrs. Miller and Broman of Duluth, are recent purchasers and plan to build at once. F. E. Breighthalle of Pasadena selected Lot 24, Block 22, and will build a fine six-room residence and will move his family here before the next fall school term opens.

Emil Grovowsky of New York City came to Torrance several years ago and bought a fine lot in the Miller Tract. Recently he returned and as the result of his great surprise at the growth of Torrance and its future development so promising, immediately purchased the business lot opposite the new Bank building site, in the Post Office block, and has plans now being drawn for a fine business block, two stories, with basement. It is not known for what purpose the second story will be planned for, but the ground floor will be leased for business stores. The basement will be elegantly arranged for a bowling alley and confectionery business. The lot is 30 x 137, and it is understood the new structure will cover the lot. It is the intention of Mr. Grovowsky to build at once.

With the sale of 43 lots and acres for the first three weeks of February, does not indicate that Torrance is experiencing the depression in business that reports indicate have occurred in other less desirable centers in Eastern States.

ICE CREAM SODAS 10c

Addicts of the soda fountain will be greatly interested in certain advertisements of several large soda fountain dispensers in the city stating that they have reduced ice cream sodas to 10 cents—pre-war prices.

REGISTER TODAY!

If you are not registered in Torrance, or did not vote at the last General Election, register at once, at A. G. Pruitt's Real Estate Office. You must have been a resident of the state one year, the county six months, and precinct thirty days, in order to vote.

GOPHER CONTROL

There will be a demonstration on Gopher Control by an expert, next Monday, the 28th, at 4:00 o'clock, on the lots opposite the Union Tool Company. Everyone who possibly can should be at this demonstration, and hear the expert explain all about the Gophers and their habits, and tell us how to "Get" them. A campaign is to be started in Torrance to get rid of a large percentage of the Gophers which are doing so much destructive work, and the co-operation of all is desired.