

Torrance Herald

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

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OIL OR HOMES—WHICH?

SOONER or later every city under which there is certainty of crude oil in commercial quantities must decide whether drilling will be allowed in the residence district.

Torrance must decide that question before long. There is no dodging the issue and no sense in declaring that agitation of the question now is only stirring up unnecessary controversy.

At present residents of Torrance are divided on the question. Such a division is natural. But it does not necessarily follow that any movement to ascertain which side is in the majority would be destructive to the welfare of Torrance.

THIS country is built upon the fairness of majority rule. In every issue of import the weight of numbers must swing the balance. The rule holds good for this matter of drilling for oil inside the "tree rows" of Torrance.

At present drilling is prohibited by the declaration of the Dominguez Land corporation. But it is prohibited only until January 1, 1925. Oil men are said to be endeavoring to lease land in the residence district subject to the terms of the Dominguez declaration. They do so at their own risk.

But their attempts to lease bring the issue squarely up to Torrance for decision.

THERE is no question but what the present city zoning law prohibits drilling in the residence district—but there is question as to the validity of the zoning ordinance. California's supreme court has not passed upon the constitutionality of zoning ordinances. Torrance's zoning ordinance might not stand the test before the state's high court.

So there is agitation for another ordinance specifically prohibiting drilling in the city. We believe that any such ordinance should be thoroughly discussed by the people before passed by the trustees. For the people will ultimately settle the issue anyway.

LET'S assume that a specific ordinance is passed. After that what? If the majority of people still want drilling they will have it. If the majority rules the other way there will be no drilling.

Initiative petitions are easily circulated and special elections on initiated measures easily held.

We believe that Torrance should vote on the matter at a special election—as soon as possible—perhaps at the same election held for the purpose of passing on the Western avenue paving bonds and city lighting bonds.

IF the majority of people in Torrance are ultimately going to vote oil derricks into the city, it might be foolhardy to spend \$75,000 for the purpose of lighting the streets.

If the oil derricks are going to be prohibited eventually by popular vote, the lights, by all means, should be installed.

THERE are almost as many men on the Torrance payroll as there are people in the city. Those men eventually are going to live in Torrance. Economic necessity dictates that men live near their jobs. Investors who come here for the purpose of building homes in Torrance shy away when they learn that there is a possibility of encroachment of oil wells into the residence district.

Thomes. Yet large building projects are TORRANCE is suffering from a scarcity of checked by the menace of oil wells in the city.

This condition argues eloquently for an early settlement of the oil drilling question in the city.

If Torrance should vote to keep the oil wells out scores of homes would immediately be built and landowners in the city would benefit as much from increased property values as they would, on the other hand, from oil.

If Torrance, on the contrary, should vote to let the oil wells in, the decision is made, conditions would be changed little and Torrance would grow in whatever direction there is no oil—as eventually indicated by future wildcatting.

A REFERENDUM on the question would settle an issue that is already burning. It would erase a question mark that hangs over the city.

Delay on the issue means delay on the growth of Torrance.

The question should be settled once and

for all as quickly as possible. Let's put it behind us, know what we are about, and then get to this business of development with doubt eliminated.

THE BONUS AGAIN

MARSHAL FOCH, Maj. Gen. James G. Harbord and a United States senator stood in Belleau Woods the other day and pledged renewed and continued faith to the cause for which so many thousands of Americans gave their lives during the war.

Their sentiments would echo throughout the lengths and breadths of many lands if it was clear to just what cause folks should be faithful.

The Americans who died in France surrendered their lives in the belief that they were helping humanity.

They also believed that their efforts would not be soon forgotten.

Inspired sentiment at the graves of departed soldiers is splendid. High-sounding words are not out of place. But it remains true that "talk is cheap."

If the government would put as much earnestness into the business of honoring the living veterans with the bonus as it always puts into words over the graves of the dead, there might be more significance to the speeches.

LAUDS AMERICAN LEGION

GEN. GOURAUD, French war hero, is looking for members of the American Legion on his present trip through the country. For he has a message to deliver to the veterans from Marshal Foch, who was entertained by the Legion on his transcontinental tour of the United States in 1921.

"Whenever you meet members of the American Legion," Foch said to Gouraud before the latter sailed from France, "give them my love and tell them I always remember with great pleasure my visit to them, and that my association with them in the trying days of the war my memory records with utmost satisfaction."

The Russian people are said to be inordinately fond of moving pictures. Now we know what is the matter with them.—New York Tribune.

Everybody says this country has too many laws, and yet every man thinks he knows of a law that ought to be passed.—Detroit Free Press.

Some so-called open minds should be closed for repairs.—Asheville (N. C.) Times.

The accent in the fresh proposals of Germany is on the "fresh."—Asheville Times.

Even if we make Mars an outlaw he may act just like an in-law.—Cleveland Times and Commercial.

"American currency hoarded in Europe." That's more than we can do with it here.—Washington Post.

It must be comforting to the monkey to learn from the anti-evolutionists that he is now absolved of all responsibility for the human race.—Asheville Times.

The European nations have not yet learned that the dogs of war will not chase the wolf from the door.—Asheville Times.

An Englishman says that Americans know very little geography. That's because the Europeans are always changing it.—Arkansas Gazette.

It is announced that the country has a surplus of \$200,000,000. Unfortunately that the news can not be concealed from congress.—St. Joseph News-Press.

"What will become of our young people?" wails an Ohio editor. We suppose they'll grow old and worry about the young people, too.—Florence Herald.

Berlin is beginning to realize that any shooting in Europe is pretty liable to hit the mark.—Manila Daily Bulletin.

That shop where they are making artificial lightning must be an aggregation of bolts and nuts.—New York Tribune.

We presume President Harding soon will be writing back, "What is so rare as a day in Juneau?"—Arkansas Gazette.

Scientist says the next war will be fought by radio. Way our radio sounds, it's going on now.—Columbia (S. C.) Record.

The committee of 48 has endorsed Senator Borah for president. That makes 49 in favor of his nomination.—Cleveland Times.

One of the best ways to keep a permanent wave permanent is to get it permanented about eight times a year.—Charleston Gazette.

It is not surprising that Russia distrusts America. We sent her Trotzky, Emma Goldman and Big Bill Haywood.—New York Tribune.

European countries are inviting American tourists to visit them, but the invitation is not so pressing as it was in 1917.—New York Tribune.

Diplomacy failed to prevent the war and now is unable to arrange the peace. Apart from that it is all right.—Boston Shoe and Leather Reporter.

Scotch Family Of Ten Moves Into Torrance

Ten new residents were added to Torrance when Mr. and Mrs. Robert Buchan moved in direct from Aberdeen, in Bonnie Scotland. They came right to Torrance without even stopping over in New York.

Located here at 621 Cota Avenue, they express their delight at California climate and Torrance prospects. Mr. and Mrs. Buchan are old friends of the William Oaks. Mr. Buchan is a Mason, and Mrs. Buchan a member of the Eastern Star.

RESOLUTION OF INTENTION No. 129

RESOLVED, that it is the intention of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance to order the following work to be done and improvement made in said City of Torrance, to-wit:

That the roadway of Amapola Avenue from the northern curb line of Carson Street northerly, to the southern line of Dominguez Street, excepting the crossing of Amapola Avenue with Redondo Boulevard, and the southern roadway of Dominguez Street from the western curb line of Cota Avenue westerly to the eastern line of Madrid Avenue, and the roadways of Maricopa Street, formerly 208th Street, Sierra Street, formerly 210th Street, El Dorado Street, formerly 214th Street, and Sonoma Street, formerly 216th Street, each from the western curb line of Cota Avenue westerly to the eastern line of Madrid Avenue, be graded in accordance with the official grade and paved with asphaltic pavement 4 1/2 inches thick, consisting of asphaltic concrete base 3 inches thick and Willite wearing surface 1 1/2 inches thick.

That concrete curb be constructed on the east and west curb lines of Amapola Avenue from a line drawn parallel with the northern line of Maricopa Street, formerly 208th Street, and distant 307 feet northerly therefrom, northerly to the southern line of Dominguez Street.

That concrete curb be constructed along the southern curb line of Dominguez Street from the western line of Cota Avenue westerly to the eastern line of Madrid Avenue.

That concrete curb be constructed on the north and south curb lines of El Dorado Street, formerly 216th Street, from the western line of Amapola Avenue westerly to the eastern line of Madrid Avenue.

All of said work shall be done in accordance with the plans and specifications contained in Resolution adopting specifications No. 126 now on file in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Torrance.

Attention is hereby directed to the California Willite Road Construction Company's "Willite Plastic Composition License Mixture Agreement," dated June 19, 1923, on file in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Torrance, California.

AND WHEREAS said contemplated work and improvement, in the opinion of the Board of Trustees, is of more than local or ordinary public benefit, said Board hereby makes the expense of said work and improvement chargeable upon a district of lands, which said district said Board hereby declares to be the district benefitted by said work and improvement, and to be assessed to pay the costs and expenses thereof; which said district is bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point on the northerly line of Carson street distant thereon 150 feet westerly from the western line of Amapola Avenue and running thence easterly along the northern line of Carson street 360 feet; thence northerly and parallel with the eastern line of Amapola Avenue 250 feet; thence at right angles easterly 180 feet to the center line of Cota Avenue; thence northerly along the center line of Cota Avenue to a point 310 feet southerly from the southern line of Redondo Boulevard; thence at right angles westerly 180 feet; thence at right angles northerly to a point 237.5 feet northerly from the northern line of Redondo Boulevard; thence at right angles easterly to the center line of Cota Avenue; thence northerly along the center line of Cota Avenue to a point 50 feet northerly from the southern line of Dominguez Street; thence westerly parallel to the southern line of Dominguez Street, to the eastern line of Madrid Avenue; thence

southerly along the eastern line of Madrid Avenue to a point 237.5 feet northerly from the northern line of Redondo Boulevard; thence at right angles easterly 150 feet; thence at right angles southerly to a point 310 feet southerly from the southern line of Redondo Boulevard; thence at right angles westerly to the eastern line of Madrid Avenue; thence southerly along the eastern line of Madrid Avenue to a point 250 feet northerly from the northern line of Carson Street; thence at right angles easterly 150 feet; thence southerly in a straight line to the point of beginning.

Excepting from the above bounded and described area, the area of all public streets, avenues and alleys contained therein.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that serial bonds to represent unpaid assessments, and to bear interest at the rate of seven per cent (7%) per annum, will be issued hereunder in the manner provided by the Improvement Bond Act of 1915, the last installment of which bonds shall mature nine years from the second day of July next succeeding nine months from their date.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, the 7th day of August, 1923, at 8:30 o'clock p. m. in the Council Chamber of the City Hall of said City of Torrance, any and all persons having any objection to the said work and improvement may appear before said Board and show cause why said proposed improvement should not be carried out in accordance with this resolution.

The City Clerk shall cause this Resolution of Intention to be published twice in the Torrance Herald, a weekly newspaper published in said City of Torrance, and hereby designated for that purpose by the Board of Trustees.

The Superintendent of Streets shall cause to be conspicuously posted along the line of said contemplated work and improvement and in front of all property liable to be assessed, notices of the passage of this Resolution of Intention, in the time, form and manner required by law.

Except as hereinbefore noted, all of the herein proposed works shall be done pursuant to an act of the legislature of the State of California designated the "IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1911," approved April 7, 1911, and amendments thereto.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly and regularly introduced and adopted by the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance, the 17th day of July, 1923, by the following vote: AYES: Trustees Fitzhugh, Nash, Proctor, Gilbert.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Trustee Stone.

Attest:

ALBERT H. BARTLETT, City Clerk.

(Seal) Aug. 3.

CERTIFICATE OF BUSINESS FICTITIOUS FIRM NAME

We the undersigned do hereby certify that we are transacting a co-partnership business in the City of Torrance, County of Los Angeles, State of California, under the firm name of Torrance Syndicate. That the principal place of business is at 16th and Hickory streets, in said City, and that said business consists of buying and selling real property; that the names in full of all members of such partnership are set forth in the following list and that the place of residence of each member is set forth immediately after his name in said list, to-wit:

- Clarence T. Bowen, 233 So. Irena St., Redondo Beach, Cal.; Harry R. Clark, 1548 Barlow Ave., Torrance, Cal.; William H. Campbell, 1816 Andros St., Torrance, Cal.; J. E. Dickson, 1163 So. Lake Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.; Arthur J. Goulding, 1611 No. Kenmore, Los Angeles, Cal.; Geo. A. Gilks, 1701 Santa Rosa, Los Angeles, Cal.; M. H. Gilbert, 16th and Elm Sts., Torrance, Cal.; Fred Hansen, 2063 Carson St., Torrance, Cal.; J. W. Haughton, 146 W. 55th St., Los Angeles, Cal.; Carl L. Hyde, 16th and Hickory Sts., Torrance, Cal.; Sam Levy, El Prado Apts., Torrance, Cal.; Mary Maltby, 427 So. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, Cal.; Margaret Maltby, 427 So. Figueroa St., Los Angeles, Cal.; J. McEwing, 624 No. Guadalupe, Redondo Beach, Cal.; Alpheus A. Penwell, 354 1/2 W. Vernon Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.; William E. Stewart, 928 Ogden Drive, Los Angeles, Cal.; Ernest A. Stevens, 532 So. Fremont Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.; Charles W. Stock, 2728 Carson St., Torrance, Cal.; Frank Walker, Ironton Hotel, Torrance, Cal.; George S. Wheaton, 1225 Arlington Ave., Torrance, Cal.; Walter G. White, 4411 Pasadena Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.; Guy Woolley, 353 Brent St., Los Angeles, Cal.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have hereunto set our signatures this 1st day of July, 1923.

Clarence T. Bowen, Harry R. Clark, William H. Campbell, J. E. Dickson, Arthur A. Goulding, Geo. A. Gilks, W. H. Gilbert, Fred Hansen, J. W. Haughton, Carl L. Hyde, Sam Levy, Mary Maltby, Margaret Maltby, J. McEwing, Alpheus A. Penwell, William E. Stewart, Ernest A. Stevens, Charles W. Stock, Frank Walker, George S. Wheaton, Walter G. White, Guy Woolley.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, ss.

On this 1st day of July, 1923, before me, A. H. Bartlett, a notary public in and for said county and state, residing therein, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared Clarence T. Bowen, J. E. Dickson, W. H. Gilbert, Carl L. Hyde, Margaret Maltby, William E. Stewart, Frank Walker, Guy Woolley, Harry R. Clark, Geo. A. Gilks, Fred Hansen, Sam Levy, J. McEwing, Ernest A. Stevens, George S. Wheaton, Arthur A. Goulding, J. W. Haughton, Mary Maltby, Alpheus A. Penwell, Charles W. Stock, Walter G. White, known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the above instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same.

WITNESS my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

A. H. BARTLETT, Notary Public in and for said County and State.

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