

Covers the Torrance District Like a Blanket.

The Torrance Herald

"There is no Substitute for Circulation."

Eleventh Year—No. 30

Published Semi-Weekly

TORRANCE, CALIF., TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1925

Every Tuesday and Friday

5c Per Copy

LAND VALUES HERE CUT MILLION

TRADE OFF LITTLE IN MARCH

Federal Reserve Report Reveals Demand for Labor Up, However GAINS IN RETAIL TRADE But Spurt Is Due to Easter Trade, Thinks John Perrin

By JOHN PERRIN
Chairman of the Board and Federal Reserve Agent, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, April 20, 1925.

The high level of general business activity reached in this district during February was not maintained during March, a smaller than seasonal increase in trade being observed in the later month. Growth in volume of trade from March, 1924, to March, 1925, is estimated to have been slightly less than the normal annual increase incident to growth in population and trading importance of the district. Industrial activity increased seasonally during March, but continued at lower levels than one year ago. The total volume of credit extended by reporting member banks of the district increased moderately during the month, as did borrowings from the Federal Reserve Bank. Interest rates were unchanged.

The volume of payments by check (bank debits) in 21 principal cities of the district, an index of general business activity, increased by 10.7 per cent during March, as compared with February, a smaller than seasonal increase. This bank's index of bank debits, adjusted for seasonal variations, stood at 138 in March, 1925, 149 in February, 1925, and 133 in March, 1924 (1919 monthly average equals 100).

Employment.
Employment statistics for California and Oregon and non-statistical data for other states of the district reflect seasonal increases in demand for workers during March. In most trades and industries the volume of employment continued smaller than a year ago. Value of building permits issued in 20 cities of the district during March, 1925, was 2.2 per cent greater than in March, 1924, and 23.2 per cent greater than in February, 1925. The latter increase was smaller than that which usually occurs at this season of the year. Building costs, including labor and materials, are estimated to be about 2.4 per cent less than a year ago. Lumber mills of the district cut, sold and shipped more lumber during March than during February, 1925, the increase being largely seasonal. Production and shipments were smaller by 2 per cent and 4.1 per cent, respectively, than a year ago. Sales were 7.8 per cent larger than in March, 1924, and exceeded current production by 5 per cent. Further moderate declines in production of important mineral products of the district were reported, but output continued larger than in the corresponding month of 1924.

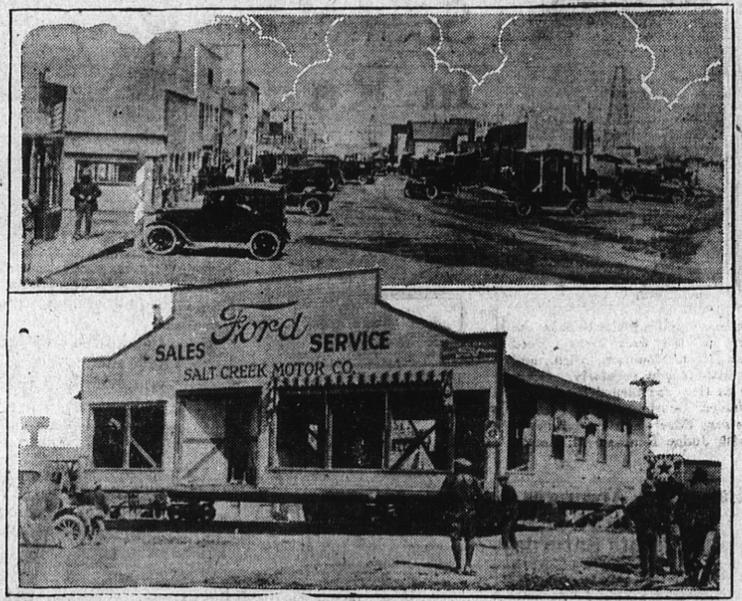
Petroleum.
Daily average production of petroleum in California, at 609,839 barrels during March, was less by 1655 barrels than in February, continuing the decline in output which has been in progress since September, 1924, when the record production figure of 858,750 barrels per day was reported. Consumption of petroleum declined during the month, continuing less than production, and stored stocks in California increased 1.6 per cent to a new high point of 102,958,523 barrels on March 31, 1925.

Retail Trade.
Trade at retail, as indicated by sales of 32 department stores in six cities, increased by 26.1 per cent during March, as compared with February. The increase was slightly less than normal according to this bank's index of department store sales, adjusted for seasonal variations, which declined from 150 in February to 149 in March (1919 monthly average equals 100). In March, 1924, the index stood at 138. It is probable that sales during March, 1925, included a greater proportion of Easter business than did sales in March, 1924, inasmuch as Easter Sunday came on April 13 in 1925, and April 28 in 1924.

Improvement in the wholesale trade

(Continued on Last Page)

Move Whole Town Four and Half Miles So Present Site May Be Drilled for Oil



Above: The main street of the old Lavoye. Below: How Lavoye's "skyscrapers" are being toted to their new location.

By Central Press
LAVOYE IN TRANSIT IN WYOMING, April 28.—It's moving day for this entire town and its population of 1800.

The whole of Lavoye is being moved to a new site four and a half miles away in order that its

present location can be drilled for oil. Lavoye tried to stay put, but lost the decision when the matter went to court, the federal judge for Wyoming ruling that the town and its inhabitants must vacate its government-owned site, which has been leased to the Ohio Oil Company for development.

At first local residents defied Uncle Sam to evict them, but United States marshals began to distribute more than 600 summonses for contempt of court, and Lavoye changed its mind. Houses and stores are being shifted bodily on wheels.

A Torrance Police Playlet in Four Acts Marked Money and Booze; Aw Read It!

This is a playlet of sleuthing, marked money, a five-gallon jug of "booze," and the subsequent arrest of E. D. Radcliffe, 28, former resident of Torrance and more recently of Long Beach.

Act 1—Torrance police get a tip that Radcliffe is delivering liquor to patrons in this vicinity. Chief Patterson, details Officer Brundette to order ten gallons. Brundette phones Radcliffe and places the order. Delivery is to be made in Torrance at a garage at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Brundette marks bills aggregating the sum of \$50.

Act 2—At 5 p.m. Sunday Radcliffe drives to the garage rendezvous. He meets Brundette. Radcliffe is sorry that he is only able to bring five gallons. The price is \$9 a gallon. Brundette gives him \$50 and receives \$5 change. It is the marked money. Radcliffe starts to back out of the garage. Officers Phillips and Young leap out of a dwelling-house window and place Radcliffe under arrest. Phillips removes the money from Radcliffe's pocket. He examines it and asserts it is the marked medium of exchange. The police then open the five-gallon demijohn of booze.

Act 3—Chief Patterson sits at the police headquarters. The three police enter with Radcliffe. Radcliffe is smiling. There is conversation and some gloating on Radcliffe's part. The police tell the chief the story of the water.

Act 4—To be enacted before Justice of the Peace Hunter this afternoon.

Standard, however, has not abandoned hope of making a commercial producer out of the Ellinwood, and started today forcing water into the hole and pumping it out in an endeavor to clean out the well and increase its yield.

The Chancellor-Canfield Midway Oil Company brought in two new producers on the Del Amo lease last week. In the northeastern part of the property No. 16 was brought in on the pump for a daily production of 150 barrels. In the southern part of the property No. 42 was swabbed in and is making 200 barrels a day.

The Superior Oil Company's Torrance No. 60, located near the southern line of the Joughin lease, was completed at 3795 feet for a daily production of 250 barrels. No. 42 offsets the General Petroleum's Poggi property.

The Mothers' Educational Center will be held at the high school next Friday, May 1, from 10 until 12:30. Friday is also national Child Health Day, and a good attendance is expected.

The mothers who have received so much help from the Center are extremely appreciative of the financial support received from the Chamber of Commerce during the past year, and jubilant over the fact that further support has been guaranteed.

Policeman Fires Eight Shots at Rum-Runners in Hot Auto Chase Over Torrance Streets

Pursued by Torrance police in a careening automobile chase through Torrance last night, two rum-runners of the Harbor-to-Los Angeles brigade hurried a bag of bonded liquor into Arlington avenue, drove their high-powered car at mad speed through the city, scored eight revolver shots fired from the pursuit car by Officer Brundette, and turning into the straightaway at Western avenue, made their escape.

Act on Tip
Tipped off that a load of bonded goods was scheduled to pass through Torrance about 8 o'clock last night, Chief Patterson stationed Officers Brundette and Edwards near the corner of Arlington avenue and Camino Real to watch for the load. The officers were in Edwards' car. At 8:15 the car for which they were waiting drove north on Arlington. The officers pulled alongside and ordered the driver to stop.

Instead of doing so, he stepped on the gas and sped north on Arlington. Brundette whipped out his gun and shot. The car ahead sped faster. A bag of booze dropped from the fleeing car and rolled along the pavement.

The fast chase continued along Arlington avenue to Post avenue. Brundette emptied his six-shooter along the way and took Edwards'

Bring In Four New Oil Wells; Yield 620 Bbls.

Four wells were completed here last week, for a combined yield of 620 barrels. Production from three of the new wells is 600 barrels a day. The fourth is the Standard Oil Company's Ellinwood No. 1, a wildcat near the Redondo golf course, three-quarters of a mile from established production. This test hole is pumping only 20 barrels a day and is cutting a large amount of sand.

Standard, however, has not abandoned hope of making a commercial producer out of the Ellinwood, and started today forcing water into the hole and pumping it out in an endeavor to clean out the well and increase its yield.

The Chancellor-Canfield Midway Oil Company brought in two new producers on the Del Amo lease last week. In the northeastern part of the property No. 16 was brought in on the pump for a daily production of 150 barrels. In the southern part of the property No. 42 was swabbed in and is making 200 barrels a day.

The Superior Oil Company's Torrance No. 60, located near the southern line of the Joughin lease, was completed at 3795 feet for a daily production of 250 barrels. No. 42 offsets the General Petroleum's Poggi property.

OIL LANDS TAX LEVY CHANGED

Assess Petroleum Property Here According to Engineering Principles PROTESTS GO TO BOARD Equalization Body Sets Two Weeks for Hearing Complaints

Taxes upon oil lands in the oil field here, classified as taxes upon unsecured personal property, are being assessed for the first time in accordance with engineering principles, based upon geological knowledge of the field, according to Walker S. Clute, geologist and petroleum engineer, who has been engaged upon this work for Los Angeles county. The result will be a more equitable distribution of taxes than in former years. Although the tax rates will differ very little from the 1924 rates, the values of the properties for 1925 will be adjusted in accordance with engineers' appraisals of the underground oil contained in each property, as of the first Monday in March, 1925.

Lessors should not fail to recognize that their interest in oil constitutes a value usually far in excess of the surface value, and a declaration of their possession must be made to the county assessor. Whether or not the lessor should declare his ownership to the county depends upon the nature of each lease agreement, since in many cases the lessee assumes the liability. In case of failure to declare, one or both parties may become responsible. The taxes are due and payable within a few weeks after the receipt of the tax bill.

After payment of the assessment, the taxpayer is given until July 5, in which time to satisfy himself of the justice of his tax, which will depend upon the analysis of the recoverable oil yet remaining in the ground. Between the first and third Mondays of July the county Board of Equalization will meet to pass upon the equitability of all taxes, at which time the taxpayer, either lessee or lessor, may present a claim for adjustment.

When a congressman attends the funeral of a departed colleague he is allowed all expenses, even to cigars. This practice is revealed in all its splendor by the following voucher, which we quote in its entirety:

"Contingent Fund of the House of Representatives—Miscellaneous items. Number of Voucher, 3083. To whom paid and for what purpose: J. G. Rodgers; Expenses incurred in conducting congressional committee, funeral of Representative W. Bourke Cochran, of New York; Taxis and porters, Washington, \$5.10; waiters, and porters on train, \$10; cigars, \$10; cabs at New York, \$9.20; porters and waiters at New York hotel and meals outside, \$16.20; meals on train, \$28.50; cabs and porters upon return, \$7.40. Total, \$94."

Who made possible all these regulations for the reimbursement of congressmen?
Answer—Congressmen.
How did they put it over?
By rules of the House which permit votes to be taken without a record on certain occasions.

GEN. JAMES G. HARBORD, president of the American Radio Corporation, first chief of staff of the A. E. F., commander of the Marine Brigade at Belleau Woods, commander of the Second Division in the battle of Soissons, which marked the turning point of the war, and commanding general and organizer of the highly efficient American Service of Supplies in France, is being mentioned prominently as the man who will succeed Secretary of War Weeks, when the incumbent resigns his portfolio.

I recently read Harbord's war diary, published in the Saturday Evening Post. It clinched what this man's record indicated; that James G. Harbord is an able executive and a great man who knows how to and does cut through the non-essentials in a given problem to the meat.

Harbord would make a first-class secretary of war—and it is reasonably certain that as such he would slash plenty of red tape that entangles that important branch of the government.

THE election of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg as president of Germany indicates two things:

1—That the danger of Bolshevism in Germany is no longer imminent.

2—That the German people, long trained in discipline, fell back on a representative of the old guard under which Germany prospered before the war.

An out and out protagonist of the Hohenzollerns, Hindenburg, "the old man of the lakes," polled almost as many votes as Dr. Marx, the Republican candidate, and the Communist aspirant combined.

Whether all who voted for Hindenburg favor a return to power of the Kaiser or his son remains to be seen. Without first-hand knowledge of the facts, and from this distance, it seems probable that they do not; that the big vote polled by Hindenburg indicates not a desire for royal rule but merely a belief that Germany needs strong and conservative leadership.

HINDENBURG is an interesting figure. It seems almost too bad that he had to be called from his retirement at an old age to enter the political lists.

Practically banished by the Kaiser in 1907, this old general was called hurriedly to save the empire when the Russian hordes were sweeping into the Mazurian Lakes district and threatening the heart of Germany. In a special train he sped to the front and, executing a military plan he had preached for years, he met the enemy at the battle of Tannenberg and hammered them back. He immediately became a popular hero and took charge of the business of yunning the war on the western front.

After the armistice he retired and wrote his memoirs, in which he extolled and defended the Kaiser to the last page. Unwilling to run for president, he was prevailed upon by Van Trirpitz, who, it is reported, brought to the old general a command from the Kaiser at Doorn.

NOW his election presages a period of bitter political dissension in Germany. In a state of flux since the Kaiser fled to Holland, Germany is still in a period of transition—and despite Hindenburg's election, slightly more than half of those who voted

(Continued on Last Page)

FRIDAY, MAY 1
Boys' athletic meet for all boys, high school.
Festivities and wiener roast, school grounds.
8 p.m.—Royal Neighbors' card party, Moose hall.
10 a.m.—Mothers' Educational Center, high school.
1 p.m.—Boys' parade, election of city officials, athletic meet, and wiener roast.
8 p.m.—Stated meeting Torrance Lodge, F. and A. M., Masonic temple.

SUNDAY, MAY 3
Services in all churches.

TUESDAY, MAY 5
4:30 p.m.—Meeting board of directors, Chamber of Commerce. Public invited.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6
8 p.m.—Bowlers' dance, Moose hall.

Observations

'Congressional Pie' as Prepared and Served in the Nation's Capital—Harbord for Secretary of War;—Election of Von Hindenburg
By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

THE following is to enlighten the electorate in this particular habitat of the gullible public on the matter of "Congressional Pie" in Washington, District of Columbia.

Congressmen, without a record vote, recently raised their own pay from \$7500 a year to \$10,000 a year.

Now there may be some citizens who would like to know just what the government gives a congressman in addition to his salary. The office of every congressman is supplied with all toilet articles, free of charge.

The congressional barber shop enables him to be shaved and to have his hair cut, his face massaged and his head shampooed at half price. The government pays the difference.

The congressman uses the congressional gymnasium free. It is one of the finest gymnasiums in the world, under the direction of a highly paid expert.

AFTER exercising, the congressman is entitled to a free Turkish bath, and, as set forth by Hilton Butler in the American Mercury, if he doesn't know what a Turkish bath is he may have a plain tub or a shower.

The congressman may dine privately in his office. Meals are served by the government restaurant in the House Office building. The meals are particularly cheap—to the congressman. The government pays the difference.

Government records show that the difference between the cost of operating this restaurant and the proceeds accruing therefrom for the period of Dec. 16 to 31, 1923, amounted to \$1,827.33, which was supplied from the national treasury. A neat sum for 16 days.

A CONGRESSMAN is allowed \$4000 a year for office help. A few years ago this allowance was \$1500. If a congressman has but one secretary the allowance is only \$3900. If there are two office helpers the \$4000 allowance prevails. Almost every congressman has two helpers.

One of the two usually is a daughter or son of the son. A congressman is allowed \$125 a session for stationery. This amount is very elastic. A recent survey showed that from this allowance congressmen have allowed the government to pay for many items not exactly to be classified as stationery. This list includes the following: Hotpot curling irons, tennis balls, golf sticks, radio tubes, Klaxon horns, embroidery scissors, Winchester rifles, dog collars, bridge sets, cigarette cases, cameras—and a whiskey flask!

Congressmen are allowed 20 cents a mile for traveling to and from sessions, whether they travel or not. The cost is about 5 cents a mile.

WHEN a congressman attends the funeral of a departed colleague he is allowed all expenses, even to cigars. This practice is revealed in all its splendor by the following voucher, which we quote in its entirety:

"Contingent Fund of the House of Representatives—Miscellaneous items. Number of Voucher, 3083. To whom paid and for what purpose: J. G. Rodgers; Expenses incurred in conducting congressional committee, funeral of Representative W. Bourke Cochran, of New York; Taxis and porters, Washington, \$5.10; waiters, and porters on train, \$10; cigars, \$10; cabs at New York, \$9.20; porters and waiters at New York hotel and meals outside, \$16.20; meals on train, \$28.50; cabs and porters upon return, \$7.40. Total, \$94."

Who made possible all these regulations for the reimbursement of congressmen?
Answer—Congressmen.
How did they put it over?
By rules of the House which permit votes to be taken without a record on certain occasions.

GEN. JAMES G. HARBORD, president of the American Radio Corporation, first chief of staff of the A. E. F., commander of the Marine Brigade at Belleau Woods, commander of the Second Division in the battle of Soissons, which marked the turning point of the war, and commanding general and organizer of the highly efficient American Service of Supplies in France, is being mentioned prominently as the man who will succeed Secretary of War Weeks, when the incumbent resigns his portfolio.

I recently read Harbord's war diary, published in the Saturday Evening Post. It clinched what this man's record indicated; that James G. Harbord is an able executive and a great man who knows how to and does cut through the non-essentials in a given problem to the meat.

Harbord would make a first-class secretary of war—and it is reasonably certain that as such he would slash plenty of red tape that entangles that important branch of the government.

THE election of Field Marshal Von Hindenburg as president of Germany indicates two things:

1—That the danger of Bolshevism in Germany is no longer imminent.

2—That the German people, long trained in discipline, fell back on a representative of the old guard under which Germany prospered before the war.

An out and out protagonist of the Hohenzollerns, Hindenburg, "the old man of the lakes," polled almost as many votes as Dr. Marx, the Republican candidate, and the Communist aspirant combined.

Whether all who voted for Hindenburg favor a return to power of the Kaiser or his son remains to be seen. Without first-hand knowledge of the facts, and from this distance, it seems probable that they do not; that the big vote polled by Hindenburg indicates not a desire for royal rule but merely a belief that Germany needs strong and conservative leadership.

HINDENBURG is an interesting figure. It seems almost too bad that he had to be called from his retirement at an old age to enter the political lists.

Practically banished by the Kaiser in 1907, this old general was called hurriedly to save the empire when the Russian hordes were sweeping into the Mazurian Lakes district and threatening the heart of Germany. In a special train he sped to the front and, executing a military plan he had preached for years, he met the enemy at the battle of Tannenberg and hammered them back. He immediately became a popular hero and took charge of the business of yunning the war on the western front.

After the armistice he retired and wrote his memoirs, in which he extolled and defended the Kaiser to the last page. Unwilling to run for president, he was prevailed upon by Van Trirpitz, who, it is reported, brought to the old general a command from the Kaiser at Doorn.

NOW his election presages a period of bitter political dissension in Germany. In a state of flux since the Kaiser fled to Holland, Germany is still in a period of transition—and despite Hindenburg's election, slightly more than half of those who voted

(Continued on Last Page)

TORRANCE TAX BILL DOWN

Chamber of Commerce Copies Rolls and Reduction Is Shown SLICE IS ABOUT 25 PCT. Assessments Data on Property Here Available at C. of C.

Taxable land values in the city of Torrance for 1925 are a million dollars less than they were last year.

This was revealed yesterday when the work of copying and totaling Torrance assessments from the tax returns was completed by the Chamber of Commerce.

The reduction in land assessments is approximately 25 percent less than last year, the figures show. In 1924 land in this city was valued at \$4,213,250. This year the total is \$3,242,880.

The entire assessed valuation of the city this year, however, will be no lower than it was in 1924, owing to the number of new buildings erected during the year. The decrease in land assessed valuations is offset by a corresponding increase in the total valuations of improvements on land in the city.

Improvements here in 1924 were assessed \$1,314,340. For this year they are \$2,302,680.

The reduction in land valuations, however, reduces the tax which will be paid by property owners, for the increase in the valuation of improvements is due to new buildings. No increases were made on improvements which were assessed last year.

The valuation of land here this year is approximately \$1,300,000 more than it was in 1923. Two years ago the land valuation of Torrance was \$1,910,030, as against \$3,242,880 this year.

The reduction in land valuations was brought about by diligent work of the Chamber of Commerce. When tax bills were received last year The Herald requested that property owners bring tax data to the Chamber of Commerce. The data were tabulated. Armed with the figures, a special committee showed county assessors that the valuations were too high. The reductions for 1925 were then made.

The copying of the tax rolls in Los Angeles by the Chamber of Commerce makes it possible for property owners here to ascertain the valuations placed on their holdings prior to the receipt of the tax bills and without making a trip to Los Angeles. These records are open to inspection by the public at the Chamber of Commerce office.

To Run 100 Cars Day Over Santa Fe Harbor Line

Through Freight Will Be Moving in 60 Days, Says Report

Within sixty days the Santa Fe expects to have established its connection with the harbor belt line railroad, and at the end of that time to be running more than 100 cars a day over its line to the harbor.

This was the information given out through the industrial division of the railroad in Los Angeles following the receipt of news from the city hall that the contract governing the connection with the harbor belt line had been approved by the City Council. The approval of the contract removed the last real obstacle to making a connection with the harbor belt line.

The belated effort on the part of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and some members of the harbor commission to hold up the enforcement of the contract, it is believed, will be unsuccessful.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Gourdiere and their weekend guest, Mrs. May Fitzpatrick, of Los Angeles, enjoyed Sunday dinner with friends in Los Angeles.