

Covers the Torrance District Like a Blanket.

Torrance Herald

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SANTA FE TO BUY 800 ACRES IN TORRANCE

Christmas Pageant Here Next Tuesday Night

TO ENACT NATIVITY STORY

Annual Community Celebration Will Stress Meaning of Christmas

GOODIES FOR TOTS, TOO

High School Students in Tableau and Songs; Santa Claus Coming

Torrance will bring the spirit of Christ to its community Christmas program, which will be held outdoors in front of the fire station on Cravens avenue at 7 o'clock next Tuesday night, Dec. 22. Sponsored by the Torrance Volunteer Fire Department, the commemorative exercises, contemplate bringing home in pageantry, tableau and song the significance of the Nativity. At the same time the children will not be forgotten and Santa Claus will be there to distribute "something good" to each boy and girl.

Rev. F. A. Zeller, pastor of the Evangelical church here, arranged the program. Rev. B. H. Lingenfelter, pastor of the Christian Church, will be master of ceremonies.

Enact Nativity Story
The Christmas pageant will illustrate the story of the birth of Jesus, and will be enacted while the story is read by Turner McLean.

The pageant will consist of four scenes and will be enacted by about 20 students of the Torrance High School under the direction of Miss Marjorie T. Elschen, instructor of dramatics. The High School Glee Club will assist, under the direction of Miss Lois Lingenfelter.

The program of the pageant follows:

Scene I. The Shepherds and the Angels—
"Hark the Herald Angels Sing," by the Glee Club.

Scene II. The Holy Family—
"Silent Night, Holy Night," by the Glee Club.

Scene III. The Wise Men and the Star—
"The First Noel," by the Glee Club.

Scene IV. Closing Tableau—
"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear," by the Glee Club.

Then Santa Claus

After the pageant the Glee Club will sing "O Come All Ye Faithful."

Then Santa Claus will be introduced.

Prior to the enactment of the story of the Nativity, the assembly will sing "Joy to the World." Prayer will follow.

Children under 9 years old will sing "Away in a Manger."
The firemen have provided a band to play.

The program is being financed by the firemen, the city through the Board of Trustees, and the Chamber of Commerce.

This year marks the first attempt of Torrance to bring the true significance of Christmas to its holiday community program. Students in the schools have been working enthusiastically on the program and an event of unusual merit and deep significance is anticipated.

KIWANIS

Owing to the importance of the Santa Fe's action this week, it has been necessary to place other items of usually high news value on inside pages of this issue. Among these is the news of the installation of a California-Nevada lieutenant-governor of Kiwanis International here Friday night. The Herald believes this to be news of great importance to Torrance and wishes to express our regrets that it became necessary to publish it on an inside page.—The Editor.

EDITORIAL

SINCE the concept of "the modern industrial city" first shaped itself in the mind of Jared Sidney Torrance, no development of such far-reaching and tremendous importance to this district has taken place as that which is announced in other columns on this page—the more-than-two-million-dollar option taken on 800 acres of Torrance property by the Santa Fe Railroad Company through its oil-producing subsidiary.

This transaction is not important to this area solely by virtue of the great sum of money involved, nor yet from the standpoint of the oil land acquired. But it is of tremendous significance to the industrial future of the Torrance district and the people thereof because it marks the active entrance into the industrial promotion of this already well-developed territory of the most able and strongest ally that exists on the west coast.

IT focuses on Torrance as the hub of harbor district industry the vast resources and nation-wide facilities of the Santa Fe. It practically guarantees that no industrial executive of substance will select a factory site in Southern California without having the natural and artificial advantages of the Torrance district brought intelligently to his attention. It proves that the Torrance district is far ahead of other areas in the matter of manufacturing advantages, also the Santa Fe railroad would never have made such an investment in property here. It insures the fact that land will for a long time be available here for selected industries at considerations within reason.

ONE cannot study the various aspects of the acquisition of 550 acres of industrial land in Torrance by the Santa Fe without realizing that the entrance of this company into this district on such a large scale is the first step in a development that will make industrial history on the Pacific coast.

To him who fully appreciates the full significance of the move, the future of the Torrance district is painted in brilliant colors.

With such a company interested in the location of industries along its right of way and owning along that right of way in Torrance 550 acres of splendid industrial property, the advantages which this district has for manufacturers will be projected throughout the entire country.

IT is proper to state that the Santa Fe is not and will not be interested solely in Torrance as an industrial center, but it is likewise fitting to note that the railroad company's proposed holdings here will be the most substantial possessed by any transcontinental line in the correctly-termed harbor district.

And it is conceded by all and sundry that industrial Southern California will be in the harbor district.

So it is safe to say that while the Santa Fe will always be interested in factory development in many other cities and communities which it serves as a public carrier, the purchase of so much land in Torrance will guarantee that as far as the harbor area is concerned, the company will center the activities of its industrial department here.

A LARGE railroad company is primarily interested in carrying freight and passengers. The Santa Fe harbor line is a freight line exclusively. To make that line pay its way the company must locate adjacent to it concerns which will increase the freight-carrying business of the Santa Fe. Because this is true and because the company is not in the real estate but in the freight business, it seems reasonable

to assume that, as far as Torrance land is concerned, the Santa Fe will be more interested in locating industries thereon than in mere considerations for the property.

The curse of California in the past has been, just as at present the curse of Florida is, land speculation and inflated values. In the Los Angeles industrial tracts prices right now are becoming almost prohibitive to industries. With the Santa Fe owning so much Torrance industrial property and being in the freight business primarily, reasonably priced industrial property—as good as any "better" time—most in the whole Southland—will always be available for substantial manufacturers.

QUITE naturally enough the Santa Fe is not making public any announcement concerning its plans for development of its optioned Torrance holdings.

But it takes no super-intelligence to conclude that even the Santa Fe is not going to invest more than \$2,000,000 in Torrance acreage and then forget it. It is generally unsafe to hazard predictions, but it is not unwise now to record the conviction, intelligently arrived at, that the Santa Fe's acquisition of so much factory-site property here is the first step in a substantial, steady and tremendously-advantageous industrial development in the Torrance district.

If anyone interested in the future progress of this district could have chosen an agency to further that progress, he could have done no better than to assure Torrance of the Santa Fe's industrial cooperation.

TORRANCE already boasts several great industries. But the progress of the community was delayed by the discovery of oil. The oil boom came and has departed. Its great benefits were temporary. It has helped and will help. At best, however, an oil development brings no lasting advantages to a community. What the Santa Fe plans, and what it will accomplish, will, on the other hand, bring permanent growth, built on solid, firm, foundations.

TO the Dominguez Land Corporation, an institution that has fostered the interests of Torrance during the entire life of the city, goes the bulk of the credit for bringing home to the Santa Fe the true picture of industrial Torrance. While the land company was interested from the standpoint of having land for sale, the future of Torrance was likewise in mind, and comment on the transaction would be incomplete without an expression of gratitude over the fact that in relinquishing their interest in the big west side industrial property, the Dominguez Land Corporation directors brought to Torrance such a powerful ally as the Santa Fe Railroad.

Boston Man Will Take Pulpit Here

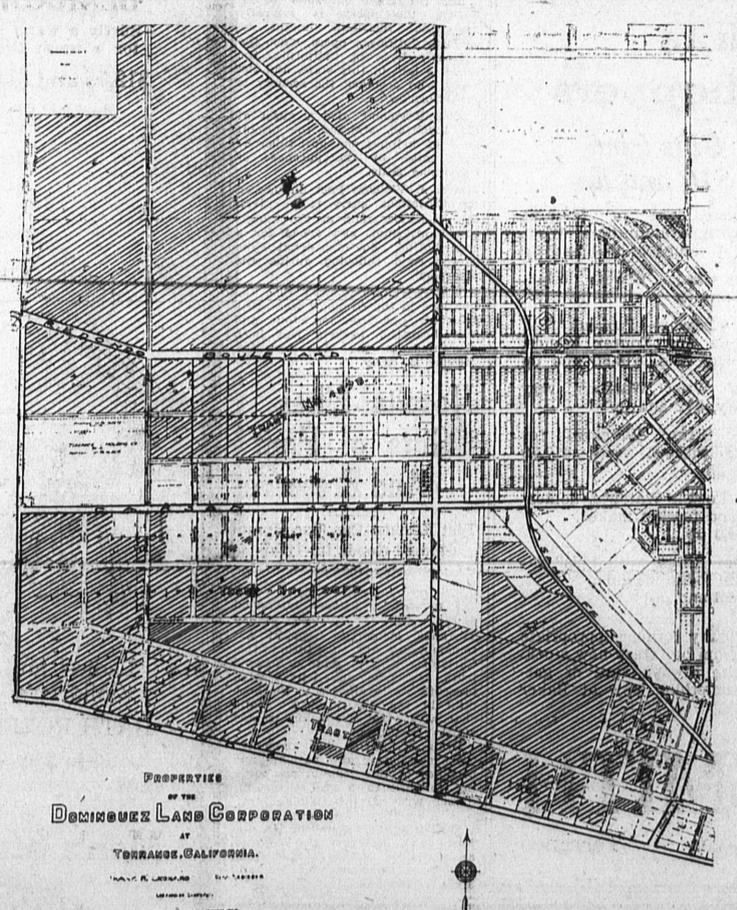
Rev. Frederick E. Buck of Boston, Mass., a visitor in Glendale for the winter, has been appointed by Bishop Stevens to take charge of the services of Christ Mission, Episcopal.

Rev. Buck will deliver a Christmas sermon next Sunday. Services will be held Christmas Day at 10 a. m.

All members and friends of the Episcopal Church are asked to attend services and get acquainted. Services are held in the Parish Hall on Encarnacion avenue opposite the hospital.

Torrance Stores Open Evenings This Week and Next Until Christmas BUY AT HOME!

Shows Big Area Optioned



The areas marked with diagonal lines on the above map of the west side of Torrance are those which the Santa Fe has optioned from the Dominguez Land Corporation at a price said to exceed \$2,000,000.

NEW PROCEEDINGS FOR ANNEXATION STARTED

3 Cities Fight Hog Farm Plan In Lomita Area

Torrance and Redondo Join Lomita in Hot Protest on Move

Lomita, Torrance and Redondo Beach have joined hands, at the request of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce, in a determined effort to prevent the location of a garbage-feeding hog farm on the Lewis farm property in the West Lomita district.

The owners of the farm were ordered out of the San Pedro area at the behest of health authorities. The farm, it is stated, was a menace to public health on account of the large number of rats and vermin attracted to it.

The Lomita, Torrance and Redondo Beach Chambers of Commerce have all passed resolutions protesting against the proposed location near here. If necessary, legal action will be taken in the matter.

Charles Smith, G. W. Wharton and F. E. Ferguson were appointed as a special committee to represent Lomita in the protest.

2000 Acres West and North of City Involved as New Paper Is Filed

A new move for annexation to Torrance has been made by residents of the districts to the west and north of this city.

Last Saturday the Board of Trustees of Torrance held a special meeting and officially acknowledged receipt of a notice of intention to circulate petitions asking for an annexation election. This notice was signed by five citizens who reside in the area proposed for annexation.

The territory proposed for consolidation with Torrance includes part of that concerning which the election was recently held and also much land to the north and northwest of Torrance.

It is proposed to consolidate with Torrance the entire Del Amo Ranch, on which the Chancellor-Canfield Midway Oil Company camp is located, the territory lying between Madrona avenue and the south line of Gladys avenue (Hawthorne road) and the vast undeveloped tract bounded by Western avenue on the east, Huntington street on the south, the Redondo Beach city limits on the west, and a line near 190th street on the north. One hundred and ninetyth street is the thoroughfare which intersects Western avenue at the Edison company's power plant location. The territory proposed for consolidation includes the Edison company's property.

Valuation \$1,500,000

The region contemplated for consolidation involves approximately 2000 acres, with an assessed valuation of about \$1,500,000.

(Continued on Last Page)

New Officers Installed By Eastern Star

Fine Program Enjoyed at Masonic Temple Thursday Night

Beautifully decorated with baskets of flowers and ferns, Masonic Hall made a charming background last Thursday evening for the handsomely gowned officers of the Torrance chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, who were installed for the coming year.

R. R. Smith delivered the address of welcome, briefly sketching the history of the chapter since July, 1921, when it was organized with 30 members, to the present time, when 170 members are on the roster.

The program of the evening and the list of officers follow:

Marshals—Helen Tiffany, Florence Peckham. Installing officers—Jean Guyan, worthy matron; John R. Winters, worthy patron; Clemma Watson, marshal; Alice Anderson, chaplain.

Presentation of matrons and patrons and introduction of matron and patron-elect, by Ida B. Heath, deputy grand matron, 1926.

Escort of flagbearers, May McKinley, by Helen Von Hazen.

Entrance of officers-elect and appointive.

Solo, "Star of the East"—Miss Rose Rothleder, with Miss Virginia Watson at the piano.

Retiring Worthy Matron Jean (Continued on Page 2)

TWO MILLION DOLLAR OPTION IS GRANTED BY DOMINGUEZ LAND

Oil Lease and 550 Acres of Industrial Property Included in Deal That Insures Factory Supremacy of This District

SALE SETS RECORD IN HARBOR AREA

Negotiations Started by Brian K. Welch Culminate in Epoch-Making Option on 800 Acres in Torrance West Side

The most important real estate transaction ever recorded between Los Angeles and the harbor and one that insures the industrial supremacy of this district was consummated last Saturday when the Santa Fe Railroad Company, through its subsidiary, the Chancellor-Canfield Midway Oil Company, took an option to purchase from the Dominguez Land Corporation 800 acres of land lying west of Cedar avenue in Torrance.

Price Over \$2,000,000

The property includes all the Dominguez Land Corporation holdings under lease for oil and approximately 550 acres of potential industrial acreage. The transaction embraces practically all of the acreage owned by the Dominguez Land Corporation on the west side. While the consideration was not made public, it is known that the option stipulated a cash price in excess of \$2,000,000.

The option to purchase will expire on Jan. 10. There is every reason to indicate that it will be exercised.

Most of the property involved in the transaction is adjacent to the Santa Fe right of way. It is authoritatively stated that the option was taken by the Chancellor-Canfield Midway Oil Company merely on account of business expediency.

Not Bought for Oil

Five hundred and fifty acres of the 800 acres involved are definitely off the Torrance oil structure. This industrial acreage is considered by the railroad company as among the best available in the harbor district and was purchased as such.

No definite announcement concerning the purposes to which the Santa Fe proposes to put this potential industrial acreage has been authorized. The company will announce its plans after the first of the year. That the land will be held as sites for industries along the Santa Fe right of way is, however, definitely understood.

The granting of the option last Saturday by the Dominguez Land Corporation was the result of several weeks' negotiations between Brian K. Welch of the Dominguez Land Corporation and high officials of the Santa Fe. Mr. Welch initiated the consultations more than a month ago.

See Great Significance

When the option is exercised the Dominguez Land Corporation will transfer title to practically all of its industrial acreage along the Santa Fe. The corporation, however, will still hold much additional land in Torrance, including that which is under contract. So it will retain much of its valuable interest in the city which bears the name of the man who founded both the Dominguez Land Corporation and the city of Torrance.

Torrance business men acquainted with the details of the transaction, which sets a record in the harbor area, regard the purchase by the Santa Fe as the most important event that has ever transpired in the Torrance district. They believe, and with reason, that the acquisition of so much land advantageous to industries by a company with a nation-wide industrial department guarantees that Torrance will be the very hub of a vast manufacturing district in the port area.

Survey Clinches Deal

Those close in touch with the negotiations declare that the Santa Fe will center its coast industrial activities in Torrance. This does not necessarily mean that any Santa Fe shops will be moved here, but that the far-reaching industrial department of the railroad company will direct its energies toward the location of factories on land along the company's right of way in Torrance.

While the Santa Fe has evidenced a keen interest in Torrance as one of the leading industrial centers on the coast, it was not until high railroad executives studied the civic and industrial surveys prepared by Eberle and Riggelman for the Chamber of Commerce and the Dominguez Land Corporation that the full significance of Torrance advantages was completely realized. It is stated on authority that these surveys in the hands of Santa Fe executives in Los Angeles and Chicago constituted the most potent influence in bringing about the decision of the company to acquire the Torrance property.