

Live In  
Torrance

# Torrance Herald

Buy In  
Torrance

Twelfth Year—No. 38

Published Weekly

TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, SEPT. 23, 1926

Every Thursday

5c per Copy

# PAVE WAY FOR BIG INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT

## Railway Company Promises Quick Action PREDICT HUGE GROWTH

### TORRANCE MEN ARE ELATED

See in Santa Fe Plans Big Progress for This District

'IS BIGGEST THING YET'  
All Agree Industrial Move of Railway Co. Presages Steady Growth

Business men and officials in Torrance were elated yesterday at the developments Tuesday night in the proceedings to pave the way for Santa Fe industrial development in Torrance.

Following are a few statements made by Torrance men:

**CITY CLERK A. H. BARTLETT**—Torrance history was made Tuesday night. The Santa Fe plans more to this city than any other single thing that has happened since the start of Torrance.

**CARL L. HYDE**, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce—"While we all expected the action, now that it is taken I foresee a great development here. We now have the Santa Fe Railroad Company actively working for the upbuilding of this city. In this company we have a strong friend whose activity industrially here insures the future of Torrance."

**J. W. POST**, director of the First National Bank—"Many cities would have spent large sums to interest the Santa Fe in their development. Torrance has secured this great company as an ally without the expenditure of a cent. A great advantage has been thrown in our laps. Few cities are so fortunate."

**J. C. SMITH**, of the Torrance Investment Company—"New industries mean new residents. New residents mean a larger city. A larger city will benefit everyone in Torrance. Because of the active interest of the Santa Fe in Torrance I foresee a great future development not only in Torrance but in this entire district."

**GEORGE PROCTOR**, president of the Chamber of Commerce—"The trustees are to be congratulated on their promptness in introducing the street vacating ordinance as soon as the legal requirements of publication had been complied with. The action of Tuesday night means more to Torrance than any of us can imagine."

**MAYOR JOHN DENNIS**—"The best thing about the Santa Fe development is that it will not be just a spurt but will continue over a long period of years, making for a constant growth here."

**Sees Prosperous Times**  
**JAMES LEECH**, manager of the Torrance office, Bank of America—"Prospects in Torrance are brighter than they have ever been. The

(Continued on Page 2)

Fence lumber \$15.00; Fig. \$35.00; Cas. and Base \$45.00 M. Consolidated Lumber Co.—Adv.

**BILL THE BARBER SAYS**  
The only place where good round figures are in style today is in a bankbook

### Here Are Three Beauty Contest Winners With Their Clothes On



—NEA, Cleveland Bureau

The three girls who won prizes in the beauty contest at Atlantic City, N. J., are shown here dressed up. They are (left to right): Norma Smallwood, "Miss Tulsa," awarded first prize and the title of Miss America for 1926; Ruth K. Patterson, "Miss Greater New York," winner of four division prizes; and Marjorie Joesting, "Miss Washington," who took second honors to "Miss Tulsa."

### Police Raid on Torrance House Nets Much Rum

Armed with a search warrant, Torrance police raided the dwelling of Frank Bruyn, 2437 Caballo avenue, Saturday afternoon, dug up 28 pints of moonshine whiskey buried under ground, and arrested Bruyn for possession and sale. Bruyn pleaded guilty before Justice Patterson Tuesday morning and was sentenced to serve 450 days or pay \$450. He paid.

The raid, conducted by Chief Calder and Officers Stroth and Olsen, was one of the most fruitful staged by local police.

After a "buy" of a pint was made, Bruyn was taken into custody and the officers, armed with spades, started digging. Whiskey in pints and empty jugs and bottles were found buried all over the property, police assert. Thirty-two gallon jugs were unearthed, together with four cases of empty pint bottles, a quantity of corks, and a coloring fluid.

Police say that while they were digging several "customers" visited the place, but seeing police retreated hastily.

City Recorder Rippey set bail at \$500 Saturday afternoon. In the absence of the recorder, Justice Patterson sat in the Torrance court Tuesday and imposed sentence.

Bruyn was arrested on a liquor charge in March, 1922, and paid a fine of \$275.

### Sister of Local Woman Is Hurt As Autos Crash

Miss Mary Casselman, a student at the University of California at Berkeley and sister of Mrs. David Hoffman of Torrance, was painfully injured Sunday night when a car piloted by a hit-and-run driver careened into the machine in which she was riding on Western avenue in Torrance. Joe Casselman, brother of the injured girl, and a 5-year-old child, who were also in the car with Miss Casselman, were uninjured, although the machine turned completely over. Miss Casselman received severe cuts and bruises on the head and face. The injured girl was taken to the Hoffman home.

The accident occurred about 7 o'clock. Miss Casselman had arrived on a steamship at Wilmington and was on her way to Los Angeles with her brother when the mishap took place.

The driver of the car which caused the accident was piloting his machine at a high rate of speed, it is reported. After careening into the Casselman machine he sped away.

### Will Pave Vermont West of Railway, 120th to Gardena

The west side of Vermont avenue from 120th street to Gardena will be paved soon. Bids opened last week by the Board of Supervisors showed the George R. Curtis Company, with a plant at Torrance, low bidder at \$120,110. The improvement will include gutters, storm drain, sewer pipe, manholes, and pavement.

### WILL LAY TRACKS SOON

Letters From Executives Announce Industrial Plans for Big Acreage

PROMISE LITTLE DELAY  
W. K. Etter Letter Says Work Will Begin Without Postponement

Official statements from Santa Fe Oil and Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company officials, made in writing and verbally at the meeting of the Board of Trustees Tuesday night, put these companies definitely and officially on record as ready to start industrial development of part of the company's acreage in Torrance as soon as possible after the street vacating ordinance goes into effect—which will probably be in two or three weeks.

**HERE ARE STATEMENTS**  
Statements made in writing and verbally by company officials include the following:

From binding letters from the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company—"The undersigned has purchased 300 acres west of the Santa Fe main line in Torrance for the purpose of developing thereon an industrial section."

From the same letter—"For the purpose we have in view, it would not be practicable to have the land out by streets and alleys. Neither can you afford to tie our hands in advance by requiring us to agree to conditions that might later prevent the full carrying out of our industrial program, which means more to Torrance than paper streets. We are acting in entire good faith with every desire to help build up Torrance and at the same time create business for the railroad company."

From the same letter—"These promises and obligations are agreed to as binding on the undersigned."

From a letter from the Santa Fe and Los Angeles Harbor Railway Company signed by W. K. Etter, vice-president—"For the class of industries of most value to a community railroad tracks are essential. . . . Assuming the oil company's request (for street vacations) will be granted . . . it is our intention to start laying tracks on a part of the land (meaning south of Carson street) in Torrance with as little delay as possible."

**BELIEVE IN TORRANCE**  
Verbal statements made by E. O. Faulkner, vice-president of the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company—"This land was purchased in Torrance because we believed it the best location for industrial purposes. It is close to the harbor and our harbor line will always be a freight line. Torrance is located on this line almost midway between the harbor and Los Angeles. Torrance started as an industrial city and has made great headway. With this additional development we are planning to put in, I see no reason why it should not advance greatly."

"We expect to aid materially in the advancement of Torrance, by reason of our investment here, your vacating of streets. We will work with your Chamber of Commerce. We have an industrial department which takes care of locating industries along our tracks. This department will keep in constant touch with

(Continued on Last Page)

### Observations

Ben-Hur, a Great Picture Which All Should See—The McPherson Case, the Public, and Los Angeles County Officials

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

ONE who goes to many moving pictures becomes fed up with the astinuity of most of the films projected on the screen for the alleged entertainment of the public.

In fact the general run of pictures are so depressingly dull that they have one advantage, to-wit: they enable one to enjoy a real good picture when such a film comes along.

I am thinking of Ben-Hur, now being shown at the Biltmore in Los Angeles.

Here is a picture that ranks among the best ever produced. It not only entertains. It instructs while it entertains. It teaches while it thrills. It moves wholesome emotions while it entrances.

Lew Wallace's great book easily could have been murdered by the picture producers. The book itself is so majestic, so great, that only a truly great moving picture version would have been compatible with the moving statelyness of Wallace's story and text.

Fred Nido, director of Ben-Hur, has brought to the screen all the greatness of the book. In that he has accomplished something that few directors achieve.

IN Ben-Hur one sees a picture that justifies the existence of this new modern industry and catches a glimpse of the possibilities that lie ahead, of education through the cinema.

How much more interesting is the study of history in the days of Jesus and the splendor of Rome after one has seen Ben-Hur. I will never read of a Roman trireme now without conjuring up a true picture of one of these old ships—thanks to Ben-Hur. He thronged by the motley crowd of Judea.

I will never read anything about Antioch but what I will see that ancient city as so stupendously depicted in Mr. Nido's film.

And certainly I will never witness another great athletic event without contrasting it and the crowd in attendance with an ancient race of chariots and the thousands who cheered in the seats of the great circus. I am almost sorry that I didn't live to have seen a real chariot race.

But enough—I can only urge that everyone see Ben-Hur. Particularly, would I commend it to youths of high school age who have before them the days when they must study ancient history.

IT is a good thing that Almee Semple McPherson is to be tried before a court of law.

The jury of the public is divided. One group scorns the evangelist's tale of her kidnapping. The other believes it. The trial will clear the atmosphere.

I do not believe that Mrs. McPherson is being purposely victimized. I do believe that the circumstances of the case, rivaling in public interest any news of the past decade, call for a legal judgment one way or the other.

**MRS. MCPHERSON** holds a high place in Southern California. Because of her position her actions become public property. That is one of the penalties of rising to the heights. As long as there remains any question regarding her integrity her position is jeopardized and the public confidence in all religious leaders badly shaken. It is essential therefore that the whole matter be cleared up. It seems to us that a fair trial is as important to Mrs. McPherson as it is to society. Without such a culmination of recent events a cloud would hover over this woman's head. A trial will dissipate that cloud or leave it there forever. At least legal proceedings constitute the only method by which society can get the facts.

If I were Mrs. McPherson and innocent of the charges, as she insists she is, I should welcome the opportunity of proving my case before the world. Maybe she does.

THE case has passed out of the realm of personalities. So widespread has interest in the affair become that the integrity of all religious leaders is on trial. For the doubters of Mrs. McPherson, being human, take one step farther and, doubting her, question every person who stands before the world as a teacher of the Word of the Lord.

Personally I will be gratified immensely if Mrs. McPherson proves her case. Such a solemn affirmation would bolster public confidence in all churches and church leaders—a confidence which the McPherson case, without any doubt at all, has, logically or illogically, given a severe jolt.

I HAVE no use in the world for this Ormiston fellow. Certain it is, if his statements through attorneys are to be believed, that he spent some time at a cottage at Carmel with a woman. He insists that this woman was not Mrs. McPherson. If he possessed mainly decency in any quantity whatever he would step forward in person and make his declaration, instead of hiding out and issuing his statements from some lawyer's wastebasket.

AND if this Ormiston's declarations are true, somewhere there is a woman who deserves the utmost contempt. Assuming that another woman than Mrs. McPherson was at Carmel with the radio man, it is almost inconceivable that a human being could be so degraded as to allow the evangelist to go through all this horror, when by admitting her presence at Carmel this other woman, if there be such, could save another the anguish of the innocent who are branded with the hot iron of guilt.

I AM among those who still are endeavoring to hold an open mind on this matter. It is woven into the fabric of American law that the accused shall be considered innocent until adjudged guilty. While many circumstances point to Mrs. McPherson's guilt, others indicate her innocence—and it must be remembered that all of the evidence is not before the public.

Let's be fair: if a jury must not convict unless all members believe the accused guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, then let us of the public in our personal judgments proceed in the same manner.

### ACT TO VACATE STREETS TAKEN BY CITY BOARD

Ordinance Introduced Tuesday Night Ends Months of Negotiations and Preliminary Legal Red Tape in Shop Area Plan

SEEN AS GREAT STEP FOR GROWTH OF DISTRICT

C.-C. M. O. and Harbor Line Official Letters Agree to Many Conditions Imposed by Trustees in Granting Request

What is regarded as one of the most important steps for the development of Torrance and neighboring territory was taken Tuesday night when the Board of Trustees introduced an ordinance granting vacation of "paper" streets in the territory owned by the Santa Fe Railroad Company in West Torrance and which officials of the company declare they intend without delay to develop into a great industrial subdivision.

The introduction of the ordinance followed months of negotiations between city officials and Santa Fe executives and took place at the first meeting at which such action would have been legal after publication of lawful notice. No protests against the vacations were made.

By the terms of the ordinance all streets within property owned by the Santa Fe, except Cedar and Maple avenues, will be vacated, so that the company may replan the property for industrial purposes and lay tracks for industrial purposes without delay.

**Another Ordinance**  
The company did not request the vacation of Maple and Cedar avenues, but asked permits to cross these streets at grade. This permission is granted in an ordinance which was introduced by the trustees.

The introduction of the two ordinances by Trustee Willis M. Brooks took place after an address to the board by E. O. Faulkner, vice-president of the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company, owners of the property and subsidiary of the Santa Fe. Mr. Faulkner's remarks were in explanation of the letters written to the board by the C.-C. M. O. and the Santa Fe and Los Angeles Harbor Railway Company, main line of which intersects the Santa Fe property. These letters set forth the concessions granted and agreed to by the oil company and the railway company in return for the street vacations and the street crossing permits.

The conditions were those imposed by the trustees and accepted formally by letter from the two companies.

**Agree to Conditions**  
The conditions to which the oil company agreed and declared officially to make binding on its heirs and assigns were as follows:  
1—To pay all expenses of the street vacating proceedings.  
2—To dedicate to the city and for public use any and all roads which the company will construct on the property in the future.  
3—To connect Fern avenue with the nearest north-south road to allow access for property owners in Blocks 307 and 308 south of the Santa Fe's property.  
4—To respect and continue all existing pipe line franchises on the property involved.

**Railway Co. Letter**  
The railway company agreed to the following:  
1—To pay all expenses for

which the city is liable in connection with granting the right to cross unvacated streets in the territory involved.  
2—To include all Santa Fe territory in Torrance in the Torrance switching limits, provided an interchange of freight over a track for that purpose is established and approved by the railroad commission.  
3—To agree to a grade crossing across the main line at Sonoma avenue, provided same is approved by the railroad commission.

With respect to the city's condition that no rip tracks or classification yards be established on the property the railway company's letter, which was signed by W. K. Etter, vice-president, said: "We do not contemplate the establishment of classification yards or facilities of that kind on the oil company's land. . . . I will state that our present intention is not to install rip tracks or classification yards on the land in question, except such as may be necessary for the industry business done upon it."

After the letters had been read and Mr. Faulkner had augmented their statements in a brief talk, the board took a ten-minute recess to discuss the proposition.

**Concessions Granted**  
After the recess Mr. Faulkner announced that the company would dedicate to the city the portion of Eldorado avenue necessary to make this thoroughfare a through street. This had been a request from the board which had not been included in the companies' letters. Trustee Brooks then introduced the vacation ordinance and that granting the company the right to cross unvacated streets in the district. This ordinance may be changed in some respects before the next meeting members of the board declared today.

The next move in the proceedings will be taken in two weeks, when the ordinances will be passed upon finally by the trustees.

According to the promise of the company the railway will set out immediately at the task of laying tracks and developing the property for industrial purposes.

at which the DeBra Company has placed sets.

**Beacon and American, Too**  
The returns of the Dempsey-Tunney fight will be announced over radio at the Beacon Drug Company's store, according to an announcement by Ray Cowman, assistant manager, who was busy today hooking up his radio for the big news.

The company is invited to come to the Beacon drug store and enjoy the returns as they are given, blow by blow.  
J. M. Bender, proprietor of the American, announces that complete radio returns of the Dempsey-Tunney fight will be received tonight at his popular recreation center.

Subscribe for the Herald

### DeBra Announces Blow-by-Blow Fight Returns at Five Stores On Atwater Kent Sets Tonight

Through the courtesy and service of the DeBra Radio Company residents of Torrance and Long Beach will be able to hear a round-by-round, blow-by-blow story of the Dempsey-Tunney boxing match tonight.

The DeBra organization has set up big Atwater Kent radio receiving sets at five vantage points in Torrance. Sets will give the returns at the following places: DeBra's Radio Store; Earl and Ted's Restaurant; Smith's Feracraft; United Cigar Store; Bill and Al's (Rol-Tan).

The big heavyweight encounter will start at 6 p. m. Pacific Coast time. One station—KNX—however, will start announcing at 5:15. Returns will be broadcast over KHJ, KNX, and KFI.

Due to the great interest in tonight's championship bout, large crowds are expected at every place