The Torrance Herald

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CITY IN BIG HIGHWAY ACTION

Plan Celebration When Torrance Lights Are Turned On

WEEK'S WORLD NEWS

"False and spurious" are documents presented to show that Senators Borah and Norris received $100,000 each in bribe money from the Soviet government, declared a report from a special committee of the senate appointed to investigate. The committee has been investigating this case as well as the Hearst Mexican documents for a year. The Mexican documents established as spurious indicated that the two senators as well as Senators Heflin and La-Follette had received Mexican bribe money.

The great American pastime of waiting for the traffic signal to flash green may soon become less of a patience test. Before the New York Electrical Society, Dr. Phillips Thomas of Westinghouse demonstrated an electrical eye which sees traffic conditions and operates stop and go signals to suit them. The device would give motorists on a major street the go signal until a car appeared on the side street. The shadow of the side-street car would register on the eye and change the signal. If the apparatus should go wrong the traffic system would automatically revert to a set program.

"My Philosophy of Industry", a new book by Henry Ford visualizes an earthly Utopia in which farmers do not farm and housewives do not cook, but in which all drudgery is done by machine. A few Ford conclusions and opinions:

"Machinery is accomplishing in the world what man has failed to do by preaching, propaganda or the written word."

"The man who cannot think is not an educated man, no matter how many college degrees he may have acquired."

"The youth who can solve the money question will do more for the world than all the professional soldiers of history."

"In common decency the liquor generation should be allowed to die in silence. Its agonies should not be the constant topic of American journals."

"A peaceful nation is one that has the means to make war and refrains."

"Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is the probable reason why so few engage in it."

After a struggle of seven years proponents of national reapportionment have won their fight in the House of Representatives. With a record vote the House passed the Fenn bill calling for reapportionment of representation on a basis of the 1930 census without increasing the number of Congressmen above 435. The constitution provides for such reapportionment every ten years. Representatives of states which will lose representation by the act fought the measure. California would gain six seats. The Fenn bill sets up machinery by which reapportionment is made after each census regardless of action by the House. The bill has been sent to the senate.

The orchestra was playing delightfully. The Philharmonic, Berlin's most famous concert hall was filled to capacity. Suddenly a man rose in the front row, shouting, "I have been the victim of a publicity gag. I have come here in reply to a letter I got after I replied to a newspaper advertisement stating that a beautiful young blonde with an independent income desired to make the acquaintance of a gentleman with a view to marriage. The letter invited me to be present here in the first few rows at this concert when I would be able to spot the lady by the fact that she was holding a bouquet of white roses. No lady is holding white roses here."

As he finished about 200 men leaped to their feet, shouting that they were the victims of the same hoax, demanding their money back. The rest of the audience roared with laughter. The 200 waxed angry. Blows were struck. A general fight ensued. Police entered, charged, flourishing batons. The disgusted 200 left the hall in a body.

The senate appropriations committee recommended an increase of $25,000,000 in this year's prohibition enforcement budget. Secretary Mellon directed a letter to the senate opposing the increase. He said it would not speed up the work. Drys declared that such a letter might have been expected from the secretary of the treasury, who is reputed to be not altogether bone-dry.

Wets, drys, lawyers are watching with interest the suit started in New York by Mrs. Sarah Owen Gray against the operators of a speakeasy. Her suit for $30,000 damages is based on the allegation that a man who became intoxicated in the speakeasy attacked and injured her husband. It is based on a little known section of the Volstead act which declares any who sells liquor is liable for damage done by a person who has purchased it.

J. P. Morgan, Owen D. Young, Thomas Nelson Perkins have been selected as the American representatives on the reparations commission to revise the Dawes plan.

Portes Gill, president of Mexico plunged into a pool with his

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BIG NIGHT FESTIVAL LOOMS

Pageant and Street Dance Proposal Referred to Committee

GOVERNOR MAY ASSIST

C. of C. May Ask Young to Turn Switch at Sacramento

Torrance will stage a big celebration on the night the ornamental street lighting system is turned on here.

This was assured Monday night when the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce instructed Vice-President Rufus Page, presiding in the absence of Harry H. Dolley, president, to appoint a committee to arrange details and make a definite recommendation at next week's meeting. Mr. Page referred the question to the public affairs committee of which J. W. Post is chairman. Mr. Post requested Mayor John Dennis to cooperate with his committee and the mayor complied.

The date for the celebration has not been set as it is not certain just when the system will be completed.

The directors discussed the matter at length Monday night. It was suggested that a large area be roped off for a street dance and that the celebration be of a nature which would attract considerable attention throughout Southern California.

It was suggested that Governor C. C. Young turn on the switch which will flood Torrance with light. It was pointed out that a conection could be made by wire with Sacramento so that the governor could turn the switch there.

Mayor Dennis agreed to consult with the Western Lighting Company which installed the system here to ascertain if they would help finance the celebration. The balance of the financing would be done out of the civic promotion fund under a Chamber of Commerce appropriation.

2 Roads to G. P. Plant Ordered

Council Passes Resolution for Cedar, Arlington, Dominguez Paving Work

In one of the most quickly handled improvement proceedings in the history of the city of Torrance the council Tuesday night passed a resolution of intention to pave Cedar and Arlington avenues north to the General Petroleum refinery site and Dominguez street from Madrid avenue to Cedar.

The resolution set the protest date for February 5.

Practically all of the paving cost will be borne by the Pacific Electric, the Santa Fe, the Dominguez Land Corporation and the Pueblo Land Company.

The P. E. has agreed to easements over three rights of way, one on Arlington and two on Cedar and the Santa Fe has done likewise, the city agreeing to pay the cost of paving the easements.

The improvements were dictated by the advisability of providing paved streets from the G. P. site to the center of the city.

Cars Driven by Women in Crash

Cars driven by Mrs. Henry Priest, 1435 221st street and Mrs. Thompson, 83075 Figueroa, collided at Carson stret and Gramercy avenue at 6:50 p. m. Monday afternoon.

In her report to the police, Mrs. Priest said that she was going west on Carson and Mrs. Thompson turned in front of her.

Observations

Picking Mr. Hoover's Cabinet—What Is a Good Mind Worth?—A King Falls Down—5 Million Autos in 1929—Durant's New Dream

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

THE cabinet makers who stand so generously willing to assist President-elect Hoover in the selection of his official, family have it all settled that Mr. Hoover intends to retain Andrew W. Mellon as secretary of the treasury. In this one instance at least we hope the unofficial advisers are right. Mr. Mellon is accustomed to dealing in large finance. His careful and experienced handling of the nation's funds, at best a thankless job, has been deeply appreciated all over the country. With Hoover in the president's chair and Mellon in the treasury, the business side of the government will be in good hands.

* * * *

GOSSIP has it that Postmaster General Harry New will be retained. The appointment, if it comes, should meet with general approval. Mr. New has sensed the great possibilities of commercial aviation. He is air-minded. Under his guidance the air mail has become an accepted thing, successful, growing. New is one of the few defeated senators who received a cabinet position and made good.

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RUMOR seeps about in Washington that Dr. Hubert Work, secretary of the interior is slated for the discard, despite his service as manager of the Hoover campaign. We hope the rumor is founded on fact. During the campaign Dr. Work was besmirched with oil. Several strong Republican papers, supporting Hoover, demanded that Work resign as Hoover campaigner. One of these papers was the arch-Republican New York Herald-Tribune. It seems improbable that Mr. Hoover will continue in office any of the individuals connected with the oil scandals.

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WHAT is the value of a brain which can pioneer new trails for mankind, teach others the wealth of knowledge correlated by the best minds of history?

Yale university has set a valuation on the minds of its faculty. Professors and instructors have been insured under a group plan for an aggregate of $50,000,000. Some are insured for $10,000, others for less. Families of faculty members are made beneficiaries.

Certainly the contributions of a great university's professors to humanity are worth $50,000,000. The time may come when an enlightened people will provide out of public funds money to pay its best minds to work for the public good.

* * * *

ONCE more an organized minority in the United States Senate has delayed action on important legislation by refusing to limit debate on a measure favored by the majority. The measure this time is the ratification of the Kellogg peace treaties. Leading the opponents is Senator James Reed of Missouri. In a democracy based on the rule of the majority the recurrent fiascos in the Senate are nauseating. The House has a cloture rule. Vice-President Dawes made himself unpopular with senators but popular with the country by attacking the Senate rules which prevent cloture. Nothing was done.

Ho! Hum!

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KING AMANULLAH of Afghanistan has found the way of the reformer no path of roses. After a trip to Europe he sought to replace old customs of his people with occidental ideas. He sent girls to Turkey to be educated. He abolished the old practice of keeping women in seclusion. The people rebelled. The king and queen fled to the safety of a well-fortified castle. The rebels laid siege. The king thought it over, decided to give way, foreswore his reforms, went back to the quiet business of being king.

What would happen in this country if a dictator tried to force women into seclusion, sent American girls to China to study the religion of Confucius?

* * * *

TEN years ago skeptics were declaring that the automobile saturation point had been reached; that all small companies would pass into oblivion; that the great industry would settle down to standardized production with no new markets beckoning.

Still production schedules increased annually. Five years ago doubters were sure the peak had been reached. Again they were wrong.

In 1928 factories in the United States turned out and sold 4,500,000 automobiles. Even today new markets are opening. All over the world new roads are being constructed, creating new demands for automotive transportation in districts which buy almost no cars today.

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WALTER P. CHRYSLER predicts that American manufacturers will produce and sell 4,750,000 cars in 1929. Other equally important figures in the industry place the figure at 5,000,000. At any rate it is obvious that the saturation point is not yet. Nor will the peak be reached until the whole world has become motorized.

Twenty-five percent of American production goes into the export trade. And that great market—the world outside the United States—has been but scratched.

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W. C. DURANT has made and lost several fortunes. His colorful career as organizer of automobile factories, entrepreneur of the great General Motors Corporation, stock dealer, financier, provide one of the most thrilling stories of American business. When Mr. Durant was deposed the second time as head of General Motors he sensed the great buying power of the American public, organized a nationwide stock selling plan, sold stock in Durant Motors to thousands of persons all over the country.

Durant Motors was not a howling success. The stock tumbled, stayed down. Durant, however, with a genius for stock buying and selling made millions in bull markets. Those who know, him well, declare that the shadow of the failure of Durant Motors, the losses suffered by persons who had bought it, has long darkened his days.

Now comes Durant with a statement that he intends to devote the rest of his life to paying back all those stockholders with interest.

* * * *

WE believe that he will do it, too. To a man of his instincts and genius money means little, the game by which money is won—everything.

Durant does not wish to go to his grave knowing that his name caused thousands of people to invest money only to lose it.

He was beaten by Wall Street when he lost control of General Motors. To beat Wall Street he went to the people. They responded. But for once in his life he failed to accomplish what his dreams had fashioned.

For his own sake and for that of the people who had faith in him and lost, may his last dream—one of retribution—be the most signal success of his whole life.

BILLBOARD PERMITS ASKED

Foster and Kleiser Requests Ordinance Allowing Signs in Torrance

COUNCIL STUDIES MOVE

Proposal Referred to Committee for Advice at Next Meeting

Representatives of Foster and Kleiser, outdoor advertising organization, requested the council Tuesday night to pass an ordinance making possible the erection and maintenance of billboards in the city.

The present ordinance limits the size of outdoor signs to 12 square feet.

The company representatives presented a sample ordinance which would regulate the type of construction and location of billboards.

After considerable discussion the council took the matter under advisement, referred the proposed ordinance to the ordinance committee for recommendation at the next meeting.

Doorstep Waif Cheers Couple

Lomita Pair Will Adopt Child Left on Porch with Note

Mrs. C. H. Meers of Weston St., is in receipt of word from her cousin Mrs. Ralph Haskins of Compton, that on last Saturday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Haskins found a wee baby on their doorstep. In the basket was a note stating that the little foundling had been born December 15. Mr. and Mrs. Haskins are delighted as they have been childless for 22 years and the couple immediately took steps to make the infant their own child legally. The little newcomer has found a wonderful home as the Haskins couple are financially able to provide all the necessities and luxuries the young man may desire.

C. of C. Protests R. R. Body Ruling

Bus service between Long Beach and Manchester avenue via Torrance and Western avenue will soon be discontinued unless the Western Transit Company is granted a permit to extend the service to Hollywood. This was the word sent to the Torrance Chamber of Commerce directors Monday night by the company. The company has been operating the service at a loss and requested a permit for the extension. The request was denied by the railroad commission. The directors of the Torrance Chamber went on record as strenuously opposed to the ruling of the commission and requested reconsideration. The request for the extension was opposed by the Pacific Electric, but was supported by all civic organizations along the present and proposed routes.

Woman Fined for Reckless Driving

Rosie Johnson, driver of the car that struck William Hughes several weeks ago, was arrested recently on the complaint of Hughes, for reckless driving and found guilty.

She received a fine of $250 or 250 days in the county jail, plus 30 days in the county jail.

One hundred and fifty dollars of the fine, and the 30 days in jail are to be suspended provided she makes satisfactory arrangements with Hughes.

Thimble Club members will meet at the home of Mrs. Ida Wright in Spurlin court Friday.

Dick Smith in England Writes Firemen About the Southland

The views of a home-loving Californian on sojourn 7000 miles away from home were revealed to Torrance firemen in a letter received from R. R. (Dick) Smith, who is in Stockport, England, on business for the National Supply Company. The firemen sent Mr. Smith a Christmas and New Year letter and the word to the firemen was in response.

Mr. Smith's letter, bespeaking his love for and pride in Torrance follows:

"Alma Lodge Hotel,
"Buxton Road,
"Stockport.

"To the Boys of the Torrance Fire Dept. and their chief, B. F. Hannebrink, Esq.

"Dear Ben and Boys:

"Your letter of Christmas and New Years greetings received several days ago, and to one who is separated from his loved ones and the boys he has learned to love through association and many happy times together, it was indeed a message of cheer.

"Although about 7000 miles separate us, it is good to know that you boys, who are so nobly giving of your time and interest for the benefit of the community and protection of our homes and firesides, should pause in your busy careers long enough to send a cheering message across the seas to an absent member who, though he has seen many wonderful and interesting things since leaving home, met many interesting people, and I hope made a few new friends, still retains his original belief that there is no place, no matter how beautiful the forests, or rolling green hills, or the wonderful lakes and streams, can compare with that little garden spot situated under the shadow of Palos Verdes hills, where one can view Los Angeles in the distance and close enough to the ocean to feel its gentle breezes. I am referirng to the town we have builded, the beautiful town of Torrance, where the skies are always blue and where the sun's soft rays envelope one in that dreamy state of satisfaction so natural to a true Southern Californian, where with your feet firmly planted on the ground in your own back yard and your eyes raised to Heaven, you reverently say 'God's Country.'

"Wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year, and looking forward to the time when I will be with you again,

"Yours very sincerely,
"Dick."

Harbor District Chambers Learn Plenty About Torrance Growth

The people of the Harbor district learned a lot about Torrance and Torrance citizens learned a lot about the people of the harbor district when the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce held their annual installation meeting at the Women's Clubhouse in Torrance last Thursday night. About 300 attended. Dinner was served by the Women's Club.

A. E. (Chick) Henning, one of the sponsors of the Rotary Club of Torrance and an active civic worker in San Pedro paid a high compliment to the eulogy of George A. Proctor, one of the founders of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce. Mr. Henning alluded in glowing terms to the growth of Torrance and declared that more than any other single individual George Proctor was responsible for that progress. He pointed out that while the organization had paid all honor to the memory of "George" it would be fittiing for all to bow their heads in silence for one minute in memory of a man whom they all loved.

Harry H. Dolley, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce in an address of welcome traced the history of Torrance from the days of its inception as "the modern industrial city." He told the visitors that when Torrance was incorporated seven years ago it comprised 700 acres with a tax rate of $1.22; that the city now comprises 9000 acres with a tax rate of 72 cents.

Frank Walton of Compton, retiring president, in his valedictory address praised Torrance for its growth as an industrial, commercial and residential center. He declared that the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce are striving to promote friendliness among all such growing communities.

Sam Dudlext, newly elected president of the organization then took the gavel and dedicated himself to the task of "keeping the other officers working." Other officers were introduced.

A concert of three numbers was given by the Los Angeles County Fire Department band, an organization made up of firemen in unincorporated districts of the county.

Supervisor R. F. McClellan, chairman of the board of supervisors was introduced and spoke a few words.

Mayor John Dennis told the visitors about the lighting system which will soon be completed in Torrance.

Miss Virginia Buxton favored with two readings.

Four entertainers from the Richfield Oil company delighted the throng. They were Harold Proctor, tenor; Frank C. McPherson, baritone; Will Garraway, pianist; Rollin Hamblem, magician.

James W. Leech of Torrance led community singing.

Council Grants 60 Day Extension in Light Contract After Debate

An echo of the contest over the ornamental lighting system reverberated in the council chamber Tuesday night when the Pacific Engineer and Construction Company, subsidiary of the Western Lighting Company requested the council to grant a 60 day extension in the time allowed for the completion of the installation. Under the terms of the contract the system was slated for completion on Jan. 23.

When the letter from the company was read Councilman Wolfe asked, "Wasn't there any penalty in that contract?"

Mayor Dennis said there was not. Councilman Inman then asked why the contractor had "pulled men off the Torance job and sent them to work elsewhere."

"There should have been a penalty in that contract," said Mr. Inman. "Why wasn't one put in?"

Mayor Dennis said that the company had not secured delivery on posts and the holdup was due to this fact.

Councilman Maxwell moved that the extension be granted and the motion was carried unanimously.

World Traveler Will Speak Here

Mr. Gunder who spent 13 years in China, six years in Egypt and who has traveled around the world 4 times will lecture to Mr. Henry's Young Men's Sunday School class Sunday morning at 10 o'clock.

The young men of the city who gather at the Methodist church each Sunday have created an interest in education, in travel; also take up many of the important question of today that are vital to modern life. The men of the city are urged to hear this lecture.

FOR SALE: LAMP POSTS

Who wants one or more of the old city lighting standards which are soon to be removed from the streets of Torrance? They are for sale. The council instructed City Engineer Leonard to sell them for all he could get. Several citizens have asked to buy one or more. Mr. Leonard said each should bring $4 or $5. Persons desiring to buy are requested to see Mr. Leonard.

ASK RIGHT TO BUILD HIGHWAY

Council Seek Sepulveda Jurisdiction from County and City of L. A.

PAVING NEAR FIVE MILES

Council Told Money Can Be Saved If Torrance Does Work

First steps for the construction of the Torrance link of the great Sepulveda Boulevard cutoff from the San Fernando Valley to Long Beach—which will be the biggest paving job ever undertaken by the city of Torrance—were taken by the council Tuesday night.

A resolution requesting the city of Los Angeles and the county to grant jurisdiction for the proceeding to the city of Torrance was passed.

Action came after a letter from the Chamber of Commerce had been read asking that the city either seek jurisdiction itself or grant jurisdiction to the county so that the Torrance link would not be delayed.

The highway in question extends from the eastern limits of Redondo Beach to Harbor boulevard—a distance of about 4½ miles, most of which is in the city of Torrance. Inasmuch as part of the route is in the county and part in the Los Angeles shoestring strip proceedings cannot be instituted in Torrance unless jurisdiction is granted under the Mattoon act by the city of Los Angeles and the county.

City Engineer Leonard said that if jurisdiction were granted to the city of Torrance field work could be started immediately. City Attorney Briney and Mr. Leonard both declared that considerable money could be saved for the property owners if the work were done by Torrance instead of by the county.

Carl L. Hyde, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, told the council that under various proceedings from the valley across the county the great project is rapidly taking form. Several links are already completed and several more in the proceedings stage.

The boulevard is regarded by county officials as one of the most important in the entire county regional plan. When the whole boulevard is completed traffic from the north, bound for Long Beach, Orange County or points south will be diverted from the congested metropolitan area and routed over the Sepulveda highway.

The route through Torrance is via Camino Real, commonly known as the old Redondo road.

Plan Ordinance Before Council

Master Map and Commission Machinery Set Up in Document

Machinery for the appointment of a planning commission and the preparation and adoption of a city plan to guide future growth is provided for in an ordinance introduced by Councilman Maxwell Tuesday night. The ordinance is drawn in accordance with the new state law empowering cities to adopt and enforce city plans and appoint planning commissions.

The council has long been aware that development of the large but unimproved acreage brought into Torrance by annexation should be subjected to careful study that it might eventually become a cohesive part of the city.

FOOD SALE

Circle No. 1 of the M. E. church will have a food sale on Saturday, Jan. 19 at 10 o'clock at the Safeway Store.