



Consolidated Edition Torrance Herald and Lomita News

Torrance Herald and LOMITA NEWS

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LOCAL NIGHT BALL TEAMS GIVEN DATES

City League Teams Play Tuesday and Thursday Nights

FOUR NINES IN CONTEST Tansey Explains Why Fees Are Charged to See Games Here

Night Game Schedule

Tonight at 8—Torrance Pharmacy vs. Torrance Fire Department. Friday night at 8—Torrance Red Jackets vs. an outside team.

All Torrance City Night League games between four all-local teams will be played Tuesday and Thursday evenings from now until September 9 at the new illuminated ball park at Border avenue and Carson street.

Tonight, Thursday, at 8 o'clock, the Torrance Pharmacy meets the Fire Department in what is hoped to be a good game.

Lineups of Teams: Night ball fans will see the following in action tonight for the Fire: Ernest Ashton, third base; Dewey Pix, first base; C. T. Rippey, second base; A. D. Stevenson, left field; Tom Perkins, short stop; J. J. Tanner, catcher; Lewis Edwards, right field; George Williams, pitcher.

The night ball field was turned over to the American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps for a parade (Continued on Page 5-A)

Mayor Dennis Tells Impressions Of Trip to Site of Boulder Dam

Under a blazing desert sun that sent the thermometer bubbling around 121 degrees in tunnels where men are driving huge bores into black canyon walls, Mayor John Dennis, Torrance's director of the Metropolitan Water District board, other members of the directorate and a congressional party headed by Secretary of Interior Wilbur, inspected the rapidly developed area around the Boulder Dam, July 2 to 4.

Auditor Denied Access to City Books Monday

'Star' Chamber Session Is To Be Held By Council To Decide Issue

To audit or not to audit—that's the question agitating the City Council and may be one of the reasons why Jay Allen, well known Torrance accountant, who was instructed to study the city's books by Ed Nelson, chairman of the finance committee, was denied access to the municipal accounts Monday morning.

Allen appeared at the city hall the first of this week ready to start his work; he was taken into a private room and persuaded by the city clerk not to begin the audit until the council had acted on the matter at Tuesday night's meeting.

However, at the council meeting the audit question was 'put over' for discussion in a private or 'star' chamber session, on suggestion by Mayor Dennis. Councilman G. A. R. Steiner made a motion to eliminate the check-up on the books entirely this year, but withdrew his motion in favor of the private meeting. Some action on the controversy is expected at the next council session.

Summer School Attracts Record Attendance Here

Because of the record-breaking attendance at the summer school session being held at the Torrance Elementary school, two additional teachers had to be added to the vacation staff the day after school opened Monday.

There are nine instructors and Principal Bell conducting the classes. Miss Frances L. Derby, a new teacher, is in charge of one division of the combined A-1 and B-2 classes which have an enrollment of 48. Miss Lora M. Cox, of the Lomita Elementary school, is the other additional instructor, and has the A-4 and B-5 classes. The reason advanced by Bell for the unusually high enrollment is that many people are not taking vacation trips this summer and are consequently sending their children to the summer classes to gain whatever advantage they can by the additional instruction.

HEALTH, WELFARE CENTER SAID STILL IN BUDGET

Word was received here this week that the appropriation of \$50,000 for the construction of the Torrance Health and Welfare Center is still in the county budget for 1931-32. Unless something unforeseen occurs it is believed here that the appropriation will stand when the budget is formally approved September 1 by the Board of Supervisors.

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Star Catcher Now War Bird

Dale Merritt, star catcher for the Torrance Red Jackets, and one of the outstanding backstops in the Harbor District, is now a member of the United States Army Aviation corps, en route to Honolulu, Merritt sailed from San Francisco Tuesday to begin his ground training in the Hawaiian Islands.

Phil Swing May Visit Torrance In Near Future

Wants to Inspect Factories To Learn Potential Power Demand

Congressman Phil Swing's intention to visit Torrance on an inspection trip of this city's factories to learn their present and potential development and such expansion's relation to power usage will be fostered by a committee of Chamber of Commerce members and may become an important civic event for Torrance.

Mum's the Word On Doings Of City Council

Councilman From the P. E. Shops Opposes Publishing Reports Council Meetings

The white light of publicity was turned off official city affairs this week when the City Council decided to discontinue the publication of 'Council Proceedings' in the Torrance Herald. Hereafter taxpayers and citizens interested in the doings of the city duds will be obliged to attend the official sessions twice a month if they wish to keep up on details of city governmental affairs.

Fireman Protests Dismissal By Chief

An investigation was launched yesterday afternoon by the Police Council into the dismissal of Leslie Paxton, fireman on the department here for the past five years, by Fire Chief B. F. Hannebrink on July 5.

Seek Recovery Of Old Bonds

City Adds Third Case To Court Trial List

South Torrance May Pay City's Tax Rate

If the county follows a ruling made by the county counsel in a similar case a year ago, property in South Torrance, recently annexed to the city, will be taxed with the Torrance tax rate and the fees will go to the credit of the city.

Tempest Rages Over City Engineer's Traffic Arrest

There's a whole flock of questions, disagreements and diverse opinions rampaging around the city hall this week which are going to be settled—one way or the other—tomorrow.

OLD QUARREL CLIMAXED BY TWO DEATHS

Double Killing at McDonald Tract Ends Partners' Dispute Over Bill

In an open field on Arlington avenue, less than 100 feet from Strawberry avenue in the McDonald Tract, a month-old dispute over a \$95 bill came to a sudden and sanguinary end yesterday afternoon when George Shugru, 45, Gardena, killed Howard W. Kingsley, Moneta ice man, and then shot himself through the head.

The eye-witnesses to the tragedy, Mrs. B. Moran and Mrs. Arthur Davies, both of 17510 Arlington avenue, saw the running fight that preceded the shooting. Kingsley, who was 27 years old, was shot three times, dying almost instantly. He is survived by his wife and two children, who reside at 1717 Market street, Moneta, according to deputy sheriffs.

Little is known of Shugru, except that he was a former partner with Kingsley in a small ice business and before that was a bridge inspector for the county road department. (Continued on Page 4-A)

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With the substitution of the city of Torrance as plaintiff in place of the county of Los Angeles, in a suit to recover the alleged forfeited bonds for the asserted failure of a subdivider to improve certain streets in the McDonald Tract, the city has three court cases on its hands now.

The water suit, which has been pending since the passage of the \$400,000 bond issue, September 25, is one; and the suit to open Prairie avenue in the McDonald Tract is the second. The latest entry in the list of court appearances by Torrance concerns a tract located near Hawthorne and Riverside-Redondo boulevards. This section was subdivided and placed on record about three years ago. The real estate company in charge of the subdivision posted bonds with the county (as the land was in county territory at the time) for the improvement of the streets.

5 Torrance Bowlers Leading L. B. League

Torrance now can boast of a group of five potential champion bowlers as the Torrance Five have been leading the Long Beach Summer Bowling league ever since play started five weeks ago, and now has a comfortable margin to its credit. The local pin men have won 16 points and lost but four in their matches.

Fish-Home Wanted By Relief Society

Who'll give some fish a home? It doesn't have to be much of a shelter—just a place where the Torrance Relief Society can regularly store donated catches of deep sea fish. The Chamber of Commerce will endeavor to get someone or some ice firm to ice the fish—but the Society must have a shed or something in which to keep them.

Enos M. Kingsley and George Neill arranged last week to take surplus catches from Long Beach barges—for distribution among needy families in Torrance and vicinity. They got 500 pounds of good edible sea food and expect about 250 pounds almost daily.

Annexation Drive Opens in Lomita; 5 With Petitions

Move Viewed With Disfavor By Torrance Civic Leaders

Despite a decisive vote of two-to-one against annexation to Torrance taken at a mass meeting called by the Lomita Chamber of Commerce Tuesday evening, determined members of the small annexationists' faction in Lomita have avowed their intention to force the issue to an election if possible. Approximately 550 signatures will be required before such an election may be held.

Members of the Torrance City Council, directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and expert voters generally in Torrance are said to look with disfavor upon the move to annex Lomita. Already provisions are being made in the new Torrance city charter to control such situations and to limit the influence of newly annexed districts. Civic leaders in Torrance are almost unanimous in the opinion that Torrance is big enough and that any further annexations would be detrimental. Even should the majority of voters in Lomita favor joining Torrance, it is doubtful if the southern committee would be accepted by Torrance, is the opinion held by a large share of civic leaders.

County Okays Title Search

Word was received from the Board of Supervisors this week that the county has approved a resolution which will obtain a title search of all property involved in the right-of-way, dedication and widening of the Cabrillo-Eshelman avenues project.

The necessary deeds will be prepared at once to enable the Torrance Chamber of Commerce to secure execution of such deeds, thereby placing the communities of Torrance and Lomita in a position to fulfill the agreement made by City Engineer Leonard, whereby the county will make a cash improvement job of the project from the proposed intersection of Sepulveda boulevard with the proposed improvement, south-every to the State highway.

Jury to Try Liquor Case Here July 15

A jury was impaneled here this week to hear the case of Bill S. Starch, 33, who pleaded not guilty to a charge of possession of a quantity of alleged beer at his arraignment, June 19. Starch was arrested during a raid made by local officers and constables on an asserted beer-garden operating at 2927 Camino Real, according to police reports. The trial will be held Wednesday, July 15, at 2 p. m.

Suit Is Started To Open Avenue

Following his report on the status of the opening of Prairie avenue in the McDonald Tract, City Attorney P. G. Briney was instructed by the City Council Tuesday night to obtain a report from the title company as to the legal owners of the land where the road exists and to at once proceed with a quiet title suit to prevent anyone from closing the road to traffic.

DEKALB SPURLIN IS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; SUCCEEDS PAGE

New Directorate Chooses Earl Conner and Don Findley, Vice Presidents; Dolley, Treasurer, and Hyde, Secretary

DeKalb Spurlin, who owns more houses than any other individual or firm in the city, was unanimously elected president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce at the first meeting of the newly elected board of directors held Monday afternoon. J. W. Post, president of the First National Bank, was also nominated but withdrew his name, making the selection of Spurlin unanimous.

Business Acumen Proves Valuable To New President

DeKalb Spurlin is a man who has experienced several rises and disastrous falls of his personal financial structure during the course of his 53 years on this earth—but has retained a fundamental stability of credit that has proved more to him as a business man and civic worker.

And from his experiences, beginning in Bakersfield when he was but 29 years of age and was in the thick of an oil boom whose collapse left him flat broke, Spurlin has formed a well-tested basis for causes of depressions.

"I believe," he said this week, "that dishonor among business men has more to do with these periodic depressions than anything else. Unscrupulous practices have broken the confidence of the people. And today we can learn from every honest business man and worker in the country that they, and they alone, are gradually building up the nation's undermined confidence to a point, where, in 1932, we shall begin to live again in perfect security for many years to come."

The following resolution was written and adopted by the retiring board and new members of the Chamber of Commerce directorate in appreciation of the services rendered by the retiring president, W. Rufus Page:

"Whereas, another milestone representing the passing of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1931, in the history of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce has witnessed several major events marking progress in the growth of the community of Torrance, and

"Whereas, the success of these events in a large measure has been due to the administrative effectiveness of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, and

"Whereas, the administrative efficiency of the organization has been due to the well directed efforts of Director W. Rufus Page, who has served as President of the Chamber for the fiscal year just closed; now therefore

"Be It Resolved, that this Chamber of Commerce expresses its heartfelt gratitude for the unselfish and devoted services of W. Rufus Page which has contributed so much to the constructive progress of the city of Torrance during this trying economic period, and

"Be It Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be engraved and presented to Mr. Page and that a copy also be spread on the minutes of this meeting, thereby to become an official record in the archives of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce."

Walteria Slayer Not To Appeal Life Term

Ray R. Brown, who was convicted three months ago of killing Carlisle Lord in a shooting fray at Walteria, has given up plans for an appeal from his life sentence. His attorney, S. S. Hahn, said yesterday that a motion for dismissal of the appeal will be filed with the Appellate Court next Monday.

Charles Moe, convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for a 1928 murder at the same time, has no intention of abandoning his appeal. It was reported by C. J. Orblison, his attorney, Orblison said he was confident a higher court would reverse Moe's conviction, as it was established that Moe sat in an automobile outside the house where the shooting took place last January.

Council Opens Assault on City Budget Today in 'Star' Meetings

Beginning this afternoon at 4 o'clock, the City Council will take off its coats, roll up its 10 sleeves and settle down to a private concentrated consideration of the 1931-32 city budget. That the session will be a protracted one is seen from the arrangements made by the council Tuesday night, to continue the budget study after dinner tonight. From all indications, the municipal cost sheet will be subjected to a slashing bout in the 'star chamber' sessions in an effort to decrease an estimated jump of from 15 to 20 cents in the city tax rate for the coming year.

A report is expected about August 15 from the County Board of Supervisors as to Torrance's assessed valuation. However, the council is going ahead on the city budget without this information to try to eliminate some cost items which now exist in three departments reported for extensive trimming. These are, according to advance information, the police, fire and city clerk's department.