

The Torrance Herald

and LOMITA NEWS

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THREE MEN TO MANAGE BALL PARK

Control of Field Is Given Chamber When Deficit Is Taken Over

Operation, control and management of the illuminated baseball field at Border and Carson is now under the guidance of the Chamber of Commerce. The settlement of argumentative problems, which stopped up a number of times during the course of this summer's play at the new field, was reached at Monday afternoon when a special investigating committee brought in its report and recommendation—both of which were adopted by the chamber directors.

With the payment of approximately a \$385 deficit on the park's part by the chamber, the chamber took over complete control of the recreational center. On recommendation of the committee, appointed by Don Findley, the following were appointed trustees of the ball park: C. A. Paxman, chairman; George Probert, secretary-treasurer; and B. C. Buxton, who will direct the operation of the ball park next summer.

It was understood that the Red Sox will be allowed to specify certain nights of the season which they will have the use of the park. The trustees will have the right to draw up rules and regulations, 20 per cent of the gate, no matter who plays on the field, must be returned to the chamber to retire the loan made to pay the \$385 deficit. The cost of the grandstand, light, water and up-pipe bills had been guaranteed by the citizens, Earl Conner, Ed Conroy, George Probert, G. L. Morris and Paul Vonderhark at the opening of the park last summer.

DECISION ON WATER SUIT WITHIN WEEK

Superior Court Is Reported Deliberating On Verdict

The city's answer to the complaint brought by a stockholder in the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company to stop the sale of \$400,000 bonds for the acquisition or construction of a publicly owned water system has been presented to a Superior Court judge in the form of a demurrer and a decision is expected within the week, City Attorney Don Findley told the city council Tuesday night.

If the court upholds the city's case the matter will doubtless be appealed by the water company to a higher court—and the same will apply if the company stockholder's allegations are upheld as Findley said the city will take the appeal.

Following Findley's progress report on the bond suit, the council passed a resolution confirming the payment of an \$8000 fee of the firm of O'Melveny, Tuller and Myers, the city's special counsel in the matter. The resolution noted that \$2500 of this sum has already been paid the attorneys.

DIG INTO THIS

That's gold in these here Herald pages if you read and profit by the advertisements; do a little prospecting.

Park Supervision By City Is Asked By Hollywood Riviera Developers

That Hollywood Riviera will soon need regular city services, such as police patrol, garbage collection, fire protection and park supervision, was the subject of a talk made to the city council Monday night by M. F. Marlow, vice president of Clifford F. Reid, Inc., developers of the beach acreage within the city limits.

Marlow said that at the present time only intermittent police protection and park supervision was necessary, stressing the need for city-maintenance of the parkways and small landscaped areas. He asked that some representative of the city's parks and planning division meet with the developers to go over the tract and study the situation.

Plan New Subdivision

Councilman Carleton B. Bell, park commissioner, will meet with the Reid Company officials within the week to investigate the matter.

1000 Clubwomen To Convene Here On February 2

Presidents' Council Meeting Will Be Held At High School Auditorium

More than 1000 women, presidents of women's clubs in the Los Angeles district and special delegates, will be guests of the Torrance Woman's Club, February 2, when the Presidents' Council of the California Federation of Women's Clubs of this district meets at the High school auditorium.

Plans for the entertainment of this large convocation are being made now by the local clubwomen and all other women's organizations, Chamber of Commerce and service clubs in carrying out the program for the day meeting. A luncheon will be served all visiting delegates between the morning and afternoon sessions.

The entertainment will consist of talented musicians, singers and outstanding speakers on the various divisions of club work. The presidents' council meets regularly to hear progress reports on club activities from the chairmen of sections so that all clubs may profit by the advancement of new ideas and objectives.

INDIAN SIGN TALK TO BE GIVEN HERE

Kiwanians and Scouts Will Hear Noted Lecturer Monday Evening

Indian sign language, its meaning, use and explanation, together with an interesting demonstration of sign talk will be presented at Kiwanis meeting next Monday evening at Earl's Cafe when William Tomkins, whose Indian name is "Wamball Wi Yata," will be the principal speaker, according to Charles Shultz, chairman of the program.

Members of Boy Scout Troop No. 4, sponsored by the club, will be invited to attend the meeting. Tomkins is regarded as one of the outstanding Indian authorities in the United States. He is an adopted son of the Sioux nation and is Indian language counselor for the Boy Scouts of America.

Tomkins will accompany his lecture here with an unusual demonstration of the sign language and explanation of its historic and distinct cultural attainment. He will appear in full costume of the Sioux.

Chairman Schultz has arranged for Mrs. Ed Nelson to sing a group of Indian songs, accompanied by Mrs. Kathryn Buffington, on the same program.

Two Local Men Aid In Survey Work

Two Torrance citizens have been named to serve on a board that will make an industrial survey of the Harbor area in order to compile important data which will be submitted to prospective industrialists in the future. Carl Hyde, executive secretary of the local chamber, was appointed as representative of this city on the board and W. Rufus Page has been named as the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce appointee.

Where "Cases" Mean Needy Families

Herald Writer Tells of Relief Society's Problems

By Michael Straszler
Behind the four-letter word "case" is a Torrance family—human, impoverished and dependent upon the generosity of better-off citizens of their own community.

"These families—"cases"—are composed mostly of men, women and children, who never before until the last 12 months or so had to call for aid. And today, they are calling on the Torrance Relief Society for the food and clothing which is provided by those splendid local women who act as intermediaries for you and me who know little or nothing of the situation right here in our own home town.

No Identifying Data
I heard the story of some of these "cases" from a Relief worker this week. I saw the records kept by the Society so that every man and woman and child will be saved from actual starvation this winter. And I heard authentic reports of "cases" which I—as a job-holder through all of this depression—found it hard to believe could exist in Torrance.

Although as a member of the Herald staff I was permitted to hear the complete stories of many families who are being taken care of by the Relief Society, I was asked not to mention names, localities, addresses or other distinguishing data which might lead to the identity of those folks who are dependent upon the Society.

The reason for this is not hard to find. Many "cases" are families who have never before known the pinch of necessity. They are doing their dead-end best to help themselves—but times and conditions being what they are—they cannot sometimes make the grade. They are forced to come to the

Fund Campaign Will Continue To Fill Quota

Every Resident Is Urged To Be Generous In Contributions

"The drive for Relief Society funds is progressing splendidly but the city-wide canvass will not stop until the quota of at least \$3000 is reached," J. W. Post, general chairman of the campaign said today.

"Because of the great demand for welfare work every cent made at the Chamber of Commerce offices where receipts for each contribution are given to the donors. No time limits has been set for the campaign but those who can assist in the drive are asked to make their donations as soon as possible.

CITY NOT ALLOWED TO PROVIDE FOR CHARITY FUND.
Solicitors of donations to the Torrance Relief Society fund have encountered the question: "Why can't the Chamber of Commerce Promotion fund be used for welfare aid in Torrance?"

This cannot be done, according to the law under which cities of the sixth class operate, it was learned today. No sixth-class city fund can be used for charity as all municipal expenditures must go for material consideration of value. There is no provision in the state law under which Torrance now operates for a charity department or welfare bureau. However, chartered cities may provide for such an outlet.

Long Beach Harbor Trips Offered Free

Free trips around Long Beach harbor in a Harbor department launch are being offered by the Industrial committee of that city's Chamber of Commerce. Reservations for the excursions can be made by calling the Long Beach chamber. The trips are made every Tuesday and Friday afternoon from 8 to 5 o'clock and all residents of Torrance and vicinity are cordially invited to secure places on these interesting boat excursions.

Give Where It Is Used—Locally!

The Torrance Relief Society is the recognized welfare organization working 12 months in the year to distribute food and clothing in the homes of Torrance needy families. The Society goes even further and brings its assistance to residents in the Shoestring strip—that "forgotten" territory that county and Los Angeles city welfare agencies fail to penetrate.

It should be remembered that the Los Angeles Community Chest DOES NOT appropriate one cent for relief work in Torrance homes. According to Principal Bell of the Elementary school, the Chest gave about \$1712 last year to the Parent Teachers Association for milk distribution and Americanization in the schools.

Local relief work by local agencies received the endorsement of President Hoover Sunday, when he urged a nation-wide radio audience to contribute to their home-town welfare organizations. You are assured that every cent of your donation will be used to help families in Torrance and adjacent Shoestring property. Contributions to the L. A. Community Chest will do little or no good in Torrance.

WON'T YOU LEAVE YOUR CONTRIBUTION AT THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TODAY?

Relief workers for a week's supply of food, a pair of pants, a dress, or shoes or stockings. Naturally, they don't want their plight exposed.

They are assured—these stricken families—that their identities will not be broadcast and in that I agree.

Can Be Classified
From what I learned in hearing and reading about our needy ones—the "cases" come under three heads. They are not classified as such by the Relief workers but for the purpose of this story they will be segregated into the following category: (1) Those families who are absolutely without funds or a chance to earn them. Because of sickness, old age or chance circumstances, this group is aided weekly by the Society for a period of six weeks. Then, because the burden is too heavy on the limited resources of the Relief organization, they must become dependent upon other agencies.

(2) Families who require intermittent assistance. Here I found a large number of "cases." Men who have expended their sav-

OUR BROTHER'S KEEPER

At this time, when the entire community has been asked to help the Torrance Relief Society in its fine humanitarian work among our own unfortunate families and individuals, the following editorial, published recently in the Los Angeles Times, summarizes the important reasons why we should contribute to the Society's welfare fund.

This period through which the world is struggling is more than an economic crisis. It involves more than a study of strategic plans to ambuscade the dollars which fled.

Humanity itself is on trial. The civilization which we have evolved is undergoing the supreme test.

If there is such a thing as brotherhood among men, now is the time to show it.

Drunk with wealth, we have strayed a long way from the fundamental and eternal truth. We have been living in a house stuck upon golden stilts. And it has crashed.

In our agony and suffering we have discovered that Jesus Christ meant what He said. The Golden Rule was not a pleasant homily intended for Reward-of-Merit cards with silk fringe on the edges and diamond dust shining on the snow scenes. It was a simple statement of the Eternal Law... the same law that keeps the stars in the skies and the world turning on its axis.

We speak of breaking the Law and Commandments. You can't break them; but they break you. "Love one another" was more than an admonition to light the path of virtue. It was the statement of an eternal principle upon which all law, all philosophy, all business, all ethics, all civilization rests. Like all the doctrines left by the Christ, this was the sublimity of common sense—the finality of practicality—the only sure foundation upon which civilization can rest.

During these money-glutted years we have tried each to go our own way alone. Years of greed and money lust have ended with this terrible lesson: that wealth evaporates and leaves men stark and with naked hearts.

It is for us that this terrible rebuke has not been in vain. For us to see that we rebuild the fallen structure on the rock of brotherhood.

This winter will be a period that calls for all men have of fortitude, strength and sympathy. It is, for once, clear to the dullest mind that we can only help ourselves by helping others.

Out of this period of readjustment we can regain our souls. It can be a better world because of this period of hunger and sorrow; a stronger America and a sounder civilization if it brings to us a realization we are given the privilege of being our brother's keeper.

The remedy for our financial crisis lies not in laws, Federal commissions, in panaceas or financial theories. The sound and practical answer was told two thousand years ago in a sermon on a mountain in Palestine.

Most Pitiful Story

"When a man, a head of a family, comes in and says, 'We can't go on—we've tried to make our own way—we've economized to the bone—and we can't make it without your help!' That is tragedy. Relief workers told me. Who suffers the most—the children or the parents? Both. The adult members of a family will go without food for their little ones. They will make over their own clothing to decently dress their youngsters for school. But the children, too, feel the knife-edged want and they do not get proper nourishing food even by such a sacrifice. Their normal growth, mental and physical, suffers."

Here's a Few "Cases"
Do you want instances of these "cases"? A man and wife, happily married 35 years, had been able to save from the husband's modest salary, three children. The head of the household out of work for 10 months, first the home goes, then the little radio, the car is repossessed, Want.

A widow with two older sons and two young children. The sons out of work for a year. Have been able to get about six or eight nights' work in a month. Want.

A competent trade worker who has always had a job up until six months ago, has a wife and two children, friends all in same line—has prospects of work next month—but nothing to eat in the house but some rolled oats and four cans of beans. Want.

This could go on and on (Continued on Page 8-A)

How Relief Is Accomplished

Understand first, that the Relief Society pays no rent. That is an inviolate rule. In a few instances, gas, light and water bills are paid when a family has shown its good faith in attempting to help itself. But the Society has so little money that it must conserve its funds for the purchase of food almost entirely.

Another thing—the Relief Society investigates every angle whereby a needy family can help itself. This is done by contacting employers, by arranging for the sale of such things that a family can do without, or products of their own manufacture or growth, and by backing every move made by a family to help itself part way.

School Board Thumbs Down On New Bldg.

"Unwise To Proceed Now" With Construction, Letter States

"Referring to your communication of September 21, requesting the Board of Education to consider the construction of the Fern Avenue school:

"Please be advised that the Board of Education deems it unwise to proceed now with the construction of the Fern Avenue school, but that if Torrance remains in the Los Angeles City School system the board will construct said school as originally contemplated."

So reads the letter received by the Chamber of Commerce yesterday from William Sheldon, secretary of the Board of Education. It definitely shows that the Torrance schools will remain "as is" until after the city decides on a city charter. The school authorities have held that the adoption of a charter automatically severs a chartered city from the Los Angeles school district.

FREESHOLDERS COMPLETING STUDY OF CITY CHARTER

The first draft of the proposed city charter for Torrance was in the hands of all 15 freesholders this week for their inspection. The board is expected to be about two weeks in going over the document and arriving at its final recommended charter. The first draft is unofficial and was made for the purpose of outlining in complete form what the new city constitution would be like.

After the board of freesholders arrive at their final decision on the whole instrument, it will be presented to the council for endorsement. Then it goes to the people for study and decision in a special election.

CHANGE STREET NAME

Approval of the County Regional Planning Commission's proposal to change the name of Riverside-Redondo boulevard to Redondo Beach boulevard was given by the city council Tuesday night. The commission's policy of naming a prominent thoroughfare after the name of a city through which it runs has been followed here in Redondo boulevard to Redondo boulevard to Torrance, boulevard and Weston street to Lomita boulevard.

Tax Bills Out; Increase of 16 Cents Is Noted

Error Found in Statements For South Torrance, Council Learns

Property owners here received their 1931-32 tax bills this week. A 16-cent increase over last year's taxes is noted in the statements received which show the total rate, not including special assessments, to be \$3.56 in Torrance tax district No. 1, or the original city, and \$3.53 in annexed territory. The statements received this week do not show the 20-cent assessment per \$100 valuation for the County Sanitation District No. 5 as an individual item but that cost, according to city officials here, is included in the total tax. Last year the total tax rate was \$3.40 and \$3.37 here.

The various costs which make up the rate this year are: Municipal city tax, .48 and .65 cents (annexed territory three cents less than in the original city limits); Los Angeles school district, \$1.62; county tax, .88; library, .05; Metropolitan Water District (a new item this year), .03; county flood control, assessment on land and improvements only, .10; sanitation district No. 5, .20.

It should be remembered that the first half of the taxes is payable December 5 and after that date a 10 per cent penalty will be added if this portion is not paid. Final date to pay the balance without penalty is April 20, 1932.

LOMITA ADDITION MUST PAY CO. LIGHT TAX BILL

A serious error in the tax bills received by residents of South Torrance, which was annexed to this city, July 1, was pointed out to the council Tuesday night by M. F. McCabe, 381 Narbonne avenue. This year's tax bills for the new Torrance territory list a 38-cent tax per \$100 assessed valuation for "Co. Lomita Light District."

One thing is certain and that is that the assessment must be paid—but the question which perplexed the city council was: Who will give the refund? Will the county refund the lighting tax to the property owners and arbitrate the matter with Torrance, or will Torrance refund the tax to the property owners and claim the amount collected, from the county? The matter was referred to City Attorney Don Findley for investigation and early report.

PLANNERS ARE ASKED TO HOLD NOV. MEET' HERE

An invitation has been extended to the Los Angeles City and County Planners' Association to hold its next meeting, November 14, in Torrance. The bid was made Monday by the Chamber of Commerce directors. It is planned to give a public luncheon meeting at the Woman's clubhouse in addition to the regular sessions of the association.

\$60 Subscription To Be Cancelled

City Drops Membership In Municipalities League

"Sixty big, round, silver, city dollars is too much to pay for a magazine, declared Councilman Ed Nelson at council meeting Tuesday night and at his suggestion the city's membership in the League of California Municipalities was dropped. According to City Clerk Bartlett the only benefit Torrance received from its membership was the official magazine which proved helpful to the city clerk's and city engineers' work.

"If any city official wants a magazine in his work, I believe he should have it—but not at the rate of \$60 per year," Nelson asserted.

Walteria Matters In Spotlight At City Council Session Monday

Tuesday night's council session could be called "Walteria Night" as three matters of civic importance to that community in Torrance were brought to the attention of the city governing board. They were: (1) the filing of a protest petition, signed by 126 residents, which is planned to file with powder from the Dicalite Company in the Palos Verdes hills was damaging to the community; (2) the submission of a second petition, signed by 27 Walteria men, which simply stated:

"We, the undersigned, need immediate work; and (3) a plea for more police protection in the community which has between 500 and 600 residents.

In protesting about the powder from the Dicalite Company's plant that is extracting diatomaceous earth from the hills adjoining Walteria for commercial use as sound-proofing material, filtering, insulation and fire-proofing, the petition asserted that the material is damaging vegetation and is a health menace. Harry F. Dierker, 21430 Noce avenue, speaking in behalf of the Walteria Chamber of Commerce, said that the community plans on taking the matter up with the County Board of Supervisors but wanted the endorsement of the city. The council agreed to transmit the petition with a letter from the city attorney to the supervisors which would assist in abating the asserted nuisance.

I.-S. PLANT GETS LARGE STEEL JOBS

Fabricating Company Given Capacity Increase For Five Weeks

With the first consignments of locally-manufactured steel moving into the International-Stagey Dgr-trick and Equipment plant today, everything was reported ready for more than a month's capacity business at the Carson street manufacturing concern. Nearly 400 tons of steel will be fabricated by the I.-S. plant into two suspension bridges to be constructed over the Colorado River near Boulder city and Hoover Dam.

A second order, for two carloads of steel transmission poles, was received by the company this week, it was learned by the Herald. This will be shipped to the Southern Sierras Power Company at Riverside. All steel for this order will come from the Columbia Steel plant here, it was reported.

Capacity production at the International-Stagey plant will be in order for about five or six weeks because the Six Companies' bridge steel order must be delivered in four weeks. The bulk of the steel for the bridges will come from the local Columbia Steel plant with the remainder being consigned to the L. S. plant from the Columbia Steel's Los Angeles warehouse and Pittsburg plant.

Eastern reports received here this week by the International-Stagey branch told of the purchase of all the stock of the Stagey Manufacturing Company of Chicago by a group of investors organized I.-S. Corporation. The purchase of the Stagey Manufacturing ended a controversy which had been going on for many years and closes the matter satisfactorily to both sides, it was reported. The concern was one of the oldest and best firms in the country devoted to the design and fabrication of gas holders and other high pressure tankage.

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"Staggering Subject"
In regard to the plea for work runs has been followed here in Redondo boulevard to Redondo boulevard to Torrance, boulevard and Weston street to Lomita boulevard.

Police supervision to stop the damage and annoyance to property and residents by groups of young boys was requested by Dierker, who said that the school and post-office buildings were being badly damaged by the young marauders. The matter was referred to the police commission for a report.