

The Torrance Herald

and LOMITA NEWS

SEVENTEENTH YEAR—No. 46

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1931

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HARBOR AREA SURVEY HELD AID TO CITY

R. R. Smith Tells Chamber Directors of Plan For Industrial Data.

"Torrance is in a better position to profit from the work of the Harbor District Industrial Survey committee than any other community in the South Bay territory because Torrance has all the facilities for industrial development—power, water, truck boulevards and proper zoning," declared R. R. Smith, city councilman and chairman of the public affairs committee of the Chamber of Commerce at a meeting of that organization's board of directors Monday afternoon.

Smith was reporting on the first meeting of the Harbor Survey committee, which was held at Wilmington late last week. Industrial leaders from Los Angeles, Long Beach, Wilmington, San Pedro, Torrance and other Harbor communities launched a sponsored program to prepare data from a united area for submission to possible industrialists in competition with the presentations of San Francisco bay area developers.

He said that Los Angeles and Long Beach were working in harmony with the other communities in the district for the exploitation of this area's advantages to industry and that more rapid and better balanced and more rapid development is expected to follow in the wake of the survey.

Building Warehouse To Pack Vegetables

Construction of a 40 by 80-foot warehouse will be completed by Walter M. Sharp, of Chula Vista, as a vegetable packing plant, is proceeding this week at the Santa Fe industrial tract south of the International-Tracey plant on Carson street.

Sharp expects to have his plant ready to start packing within the next few weeks. He is now contracting with local truck gardeners for produce. It is not known how many employees the warehouse will have, but it is expected to expand as conditions warrant.

Torrance Has Fourth Lowest Municipal Tax Rate In County

Only three incorporated cities out of 45 in the county have a lower municipal tax rate than Torrance's 65 and 68-cent levy this year, according to the 1931 edition of the Los Angeles County Taxpayers' Guide.

The three lowest are Vernon, 34 and 38 cents; West Covina, 40 cents; and Signal Hill, 43 cents. The city having the doubtful distinction of carrying the highest municipal tax rate is Glendora with a levy of \$1.94 being collected this year.

Tenth In Valuation
Surrounding cities having higher municipal rates than Torrance include: Compton, \$1.20-\$1.11; El Segundo, 67 and 79 cents; Gardena, 80 cents; Hawthorne, 90 cents; Hermosa, \$1.47; Inglewood, \$1.09; Los Angeles (ranging from \$1.59 to \$1.78); Lynwood, 91 cents; Redondo, \$1.25-\$1.16; South Gate, \$1-\$1.19; and Long Beach, \$1.55.

The Taxpayers' Guide reveals that only 10 cities out of the 45 in the county have a higher grand total assessed valuation than Torrance's \$27,331,461 this year. They are Alhambra, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Glendale, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Santa Monica, Signal Hill and Vernon.

Taxpayers' Information
The Guide is compiled under the supervision of H. A. Payne, county

PLANNERS TO HEAR REPORT BY ENGINEER

Improvement Organization Is To Meet Here, Saturday, November 14

All residents interested in civic and county improvement should make it a point to attend the meeting of the Association of City Planners of Los Angeles County which will be held here for the first time in many months, Saturday, November 14.

At the noon luncheon session of the association, the principal interest will center around the fourth section report of Los Angeles county planning. This report embraces all the territory south of the southern limits of Compton to the county line and beaches. It has been prepared by William J. Fox, chief engineer of the Regional Planning Commission.

Months of study have gone into the formation of this survey covering the various land usages in this district and the county's major plan for highways as well as the state's primary and secondary road system.

Many of its details pertain to Torrance, it is reported, and thus should be interesting to all civic-minded residents. City and chamber of commerce officials will attend the meeting. The Woman's club will serve the luncheon.

City Treasurer Of Compton In Plea of Guilty

Charged With Three Counts of Grand Theft; New Officer Appointed

Robert B. Hedrick, former city treasurer of Compton, waived preliminary hearing before a Los Angeles municipal judge Tuesday and declared his intention to plead guilty to three counts of grand theft when his case comes before the Superior Court. Hedrick admitted misusing Compton city funds entrusted to him. He was held under \$10,000 bail to await trial.

The first count charged theft of \$1700, the second of \$4700, and the third involved juggling the city books to cover the peculations. Hedrick told the court the thefts were due to speculations in real estate.

In a session of the Compton council last week, Hedrick, after admitting his thefts, resigned his post as city treasurer. Roy L. Adams, commander of the Compton Veterans of Foreign Wars, was appointed to fill the position. Some time will be required, it was reported, before it can be determined whether Hedrick has sufficient assets in property to reimburse the city. If he is unable to do so, his bonding company, will be forced to make up the deficit.

TREATED AT HOSPITAL

Mrs. H. Christensen, of San Pedro, was treated for severe cuts on her right hand at the David Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital after she had been struck by an unidentified motorist on Carson street near Normandie Tuesday evening.

City Must Answer To Crash Suit

Because the city's demurrer to Mr. and Mrs. Martin Venema and John Venema's \$20,000 damage suit, legal aftermath of their son and brother's death as the result of an automobile accident on Torrance boulevard, was not granted by the court Monday, an answer must be filed by the city to the suit within the next 10 days, according to City Attorney Don Findley.

The demurrer was taken, Findley said, because he believed the statute of limitations applied to the case—the accident occurring a year ago last July, the suit being filed July this year and the summons only being written last September.

Frederick Venema, the victim, died of injuries received in July, 1930, when his car plunged off the road, overturned at the Maple avenue intersection with the boulevard. A "dangerous and defective depression in the road" was cited as the cause of the accident by the plaintiffs.

Att'y. General Confirms Rule About Schools

Torrance Must Take Over Local Institutions With Charter

Confirmation of the county council's opinion that Torrance would automatically separate itself from the Los Angeles city school district by adopting a city charter was given the Los Angeles Board of Education this week in an opinion from U. S. Webb, attorney general of California. A copy of Webb's statement was received by Herbert S. Wood, principal of the High School Tuesday.

The attorney general had forwarded his opinion that this city would have to create its own school district and operate its own educational institutions if it becomes a chartered city to Vierling Kersey, county superintendent of schools. County Counsel Mattson had stated several months ago that such action would follow Torrance's charter move, but the confirmation is believed to be the final word on the matter.

Construction of the proposed \$34,000 Fern Avenue school and additions to the Montezuma school, in Torrance territory, has been held up by the Los Angeles school authorities pending the city's decision on the proposed charter. Members of the board of freeholders, who are drafting the instrument which will permit Torrance to become a city in its own right, will meet tonight to consider the first draft of the proposed constitution. This draft has been in the hands of the 15 freeholders for about two weeks for study and with their meeting tonight, the final action on the charter will be started.

Expect To Register Workers Saturday

A representative of the workers' registration board of the Metropolitan Water District is expected to be at the city hall here next Saturday to register local new citizens, who wish jobs on the Metropolitan aqueduct project. Mayor Dennis told the council Tuesday night that the plan of local registration of workers had been adopted by the District directors.

LOCAL GIRL IS STAR UNIVERSITY DEBATER

Miss Phyllis Knorr, daughter of Mrs. John Knorr of the Beacon Drug Co. fountain lunch department, is named as the "star debater" on the University of Southern California women's debating team, according to a news story recently published with picture in a metropolitan newspaper. Miss Knorr is a sophomore at U. S. C.

ARMISTICE DAY

Observance To Be Held Wednesday Morning, Nov. 11

Parade forms at 9 a. m. in front of the Pacific Electric station.

"A" DIVISION
Col. N. F. Jamieson, commander
Motor Officer William Mallin, Mayor and City Council members, Chief of Police and aides, Fire Chief and aides, Veterans' cars containing members of the G. A. R., Gold Star Mothers, and Disabled Veterans, Marshal of the Day—Lt. Col. Robert L. Ingersoll, Chief of Staff—Col. Jamieson.

FIRST DIVISION
Herbert S. Wood, commander
American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps, Manned colors with armed escort, School children.

SECOND DIVISION
Alfred Gouardier, commander
Spanish-American War Veterans and Auxiliaries, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliaries, American Legion and Auxiliaries.

THIRD DIVISION
Fay Parks, commander
Civic organizations, including the Woman's Club, Business and Professional Women's Club, Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs.

FOURTH DIVISION
Lieutenant Hars, commander
Torrance Boys' Band, Torrance Military Academy Cadets, Boy Scouts.

From the Pacific Electric station, the parade will move south on Cabrillo to Carson street and up Carson to the High school football field where the following program will start after the procession marches once around the field:

ARMISTICE PROGRAM
Dress parade by the Torrance Military Academy; concert and drill by the Legion Drum and Bugle Corps; Boy Scout demonstration.

Invocation by Rev. Kemp J. Winkler, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal church; singing of "America" by the entire audience and participants in the observance, led by Herbert S. Wood, Songs by the High school Madrigal Singers, "The Trumpeter" sung by J. E. Williams, accompanied by Alex MacPhail, Legion trumpeter. Address by Major J. Carl Schindler of Sawtelle, Benediction by the Rt. Rev. Fr. Daniel Hurley, pastor of the Catholic Church of the Nativity. Observance of the International one-minute of silent prayer for fallen heroes of the World War. Taps by a Legion bugler.

GYPSY BETROTHAL PARTY IS COLORFUL, FRIENDLY EVENT

Herald Reporter Mingles With Romany Throng Celebrating Engagement—Not Wedding—of Nomad Pair

By BIRDA PADDOCK
Oh, Customs! Oh, Times! Changing ever, everything, save the laws of the Medes and the Persians—and the ways of the gypsies. Hundreds of cars and over a thousand people visited an auto camp near the Santa Fe bridge north of Wilmington Sunday to see an advertised gypsy wedding and no doubt most of them went away thinking they had learned some of the mysterious rites of the tribes. But nay, not so, for the gypsy, ever secretive, and more so now since the attempt of King Bimbo of Chicago to make himself the king of all tribes and the Al Capone of the gypsies, only allows the outsider to see what he chooses, and that isn't any of the secrets. Any wedding or "bride kidnapping" are "staged" for a credulous public.

It wasn't a wedding. The gathering Sunday was of the California branch of the Adams or Marks tribes and the occasion was the celebration of the betrothal of Rose George, 17, to Vito (or Steve as he is known in the tribe) Williams. Steve is but 13, and as the bride's sister told me: "They are what you call engage but it is the same, they go together." In other words, the bride, who was dowiest and tearful, leaves her parents for the tent of her father and mother-in-law to live until the groom is old enough to marry. Steve was a handsome boy, looking less than his 13 years, and his chief interest was in an ice-cream cart that had drawn up behind the camp. He was a nice-mannered boy but it was evident he did not realize his important part in the day's celebration, while the bride was a tall, slender woman, gowned in a magnificent dress of silver metallic cloth over silk.

Spiro George, father of the bride, is said to have received \$2500 from John Williams, father of the groom, but I didn't see the money paid.

The celebration Sunday also was important for it marked the assuming of authority of the new king, King Marc. Steve Uwanias, young king of the tribe, retired and Marc Adams, named as his successor, resigned, as Adams lamented as he worked away on a coat closet that will soon adorn the direction of Mr. Burk.

Only One Thing Wrong
In this last class was found Ed Nelson, cashier of the First National bank, city councilman—but he was only a cabinet maker at the Evening High school.

"There's only one thing wrong with this night school work," he lamented as he worked away on a coat closet that will soon adorn the direction of Mr. Burk.

War's End Observance Ready Here

All plans for this city's most extensive observance of Armistice Day, next Wednesday, were completed today, according to the committee in charge. The complete parade line-up and program to be given in the morning of November 11 appears on this page.

All business houses are expected to close all day Wednesday out of respect for the men and women who "went West" during the World War. Efforts have been made to enlist the cooperation of all chain stores for this holiday and it is believed by Harry R. Dolley, chairman of the committee on closing, that they will respond to the suggestion.

Please Display Flags
Residents are asked to hang flags outside their homes and business men have been requested to decorate their show windows. The Chamber of Commerce purchased three gross of small flags which will be used to decorate the High school field and speakers' platform where the program will be given. In case of inclement weather, the program will be transferred from the field to the High school auditorium.

Those who have been working on the program for Armistice Day have obtained an observance which will be of great interest to all and it is hoped that residents of this and surrounding communities will assist in making the event an outstanding success.

The only pharmacy to remain open next Wednesday will be the Dolley Drug Company, according to an announcement from the druggists of Torrance today.

QUINN GIVES PLEDGES ON ROAD WORK

Page Reports Supervisor Is Committed To Three Big Projects

Definite assurance was given Torrance this week by Supervisor John R. Quinn, that as soon as City Engineer Leonard has the plans completed, the county will pave a 20-foot strip on Torrance boulevard from the Redondo city line to Hawthorne avenue as a cash job. Quinn, in making this commitment this week to W. Rufus Page, Chamber of Commerce director and past president, said that Torrance men would be employed on the work.

This was the first of three commitments given by Quinn to Page in regard to local road improvement matters, the director reported to other members of the chamber board Monday. The second Quinn statement was to the effect that if Dr. Del Amo would deed 40 feet on the south side of Torrance boulevard from Madras avenue to the Redondo line, and if other property owners on the boulevard would do the same, the county would pave a 20-foot strip on the other side of the trees bordering the south side of the boulevard, to make Torrance boulevard a double-barreled highway to Hawthorne avenue. The existing road has a right-of-way of 100 feet, Page said. The appropriation for the extra roadway would come out of the county's 1932-33 budget but if the gasoline tax money were available before that time, the job would be done at that moment.

Quinn's third pledge of support concerned the El Prado extension—a long-sought improvement here. He assured Page that the county would aid in extending El Prado from where it now ends at West-street, giving south Los Angeles a direct artery to the beaches in this territory. The first work on this project would be to improve El Prado to Normandie avenue.

Schools To Close On Armistice Day

All schools in the city will be closed next Wednesday, Armistice Day. A special observance of the cessation of World War hostilities will be presented at the High school next Thursday when Supervisor John R. Quinn will be the speaker.

Thanksgiving holidays will begin with programs at all schools, Wednesday morning or afternoon, November 25. Thursday, Thanksgiving Day, is a legal holiday, and Friday, November 27, is a school holiday. Classes will re-open Monday, November 30.

PLEDGES TO RELIEF FUND ARE NEEDED

Post Wants To End Drive Next Thursday; Quota Not Yet Reached

Will those who pledged donations to the Torrance Relief Society during the present campaign to raise "at least \$3000" please come forward within the next few days and redeem their promises with good, hard cash?

"That plea was made to those who volunteered contributions during the past two weeks and promised to pay later by J. W. Post, chairman of the citizens' committee acting for the Relief Society in the campaign.

"We need every pledge to complete our drive," Post said. "While the contributions have been up to expectations—there is a chance that we'll fall short of the quota if all do not make good. We have actually collected over \$2000 so far but our goal of \$3000 is yet to be reached."

Post said that some of the manufacturing and industrial plants have not yet forwarded their contributions and that they were expected to be heard from within the next week.

"We want to end the drive successfully by next Thursday. Every worker has done his best part to make the city conscious of the great need for ample relief funds. Those who have not made subscriptions to the Society for local welfare work should earnestly try to do so within the week. Contributions may be left at the Chamber of Commerce where receipts are given for all money donated to this most worthy cause," Post concluded.

Crash Victim Succumbs To Injuries Here

Local Japanese School Boy Is Involved In Accident That Causes Death

At 4:15 yesterday afternoon R. H. Downing, 1055 Gladys street, Long Beach, died as the result of injuries received in an automobile accident at the intersection of Carson street and Maple avenue last Saturday morning. It is believed his death was due to a fracture of the skull, concussion and severe contusions. A coroner's inquest will be held, probably Saturday morning.

Downing was a passenger in an automobile driven on Maple street by C. G. Cullett, also of Long Beach. At the intersection the machine collided with or was struck by a car driven by 15-year-old George Y. Kubo, of Lomita, who is a student in the Torrance High school. Young Kubo was driving on Carson street and in his report to police, said that Cullett's car crashed into his machine when it suddenly dashed out on Carson.

Cullett was slightly injured, being treated at the hospital. Kubo (Continued on Page 8-A)

REVISE STREET LIGHTING PLAN; ALL MUST AID

More Illumination Will Be Given; All Residents Asked to Cooperate.

In arriving at a revised plan today of eliminating some street lighting for the purpose of raising funds to afford work for local unemployed, Councilman R. R. Smith and City Engineer Leonard declared the only thing that will permit the successful operation of the system is the cooperation of all residents.

A revision of the diminished street lighting became necessary this week when a number of objections were made by citizens to the darkened streets. It was found that with the plan of eliminating the "before midnight" circuit entirely and only turning on the lights that normally stay on after 12 o'clock, that the cutting down limited some street intersections to decidedly insufficient light.

Acting on a city council instruction, the Street, Fire and Police committee, composed of Smith, chairman; Ed Nelson, G. A. R. Steiner and the city engineer, reworked the plan to save on the city light bill and turn the savings into an unemployment fund. After several conferences, City Engineer Leonard and Councilman Smith arrived at what they hope will be a solution to the problem and yet save approximately two-thirds of the original savings estimated or about \$200 per month.

This revised plan includes the "spotting" of street illumination so that all intersections will have at least two lights all night, two lights in residential districts where the tree growth is heavy and more illumination in the business district up to midnight.

"We must make field trips at night to determine whether this 'spotting' of lights is giving sufficient protection and consequently we urge residents to cooperate with us in determining the best plan to follow," Councilman Smith said.

Leonard has estimated that with the revised plan of lighting, the city can turn on about 125 more lights than have been illuminated during the past week. This would still permit a saving that will afford about 50 working days a month to the unemployed.

The lighting situation was a difficult problem, Smith said, because the primary purpose of the lights was to give protection to pedestrians and property. He declared the city will not at any time jeopardize any one's interest in the interest of economy and fear that reason urged all residents to make known their preferences in this matter of lighting.

"The city engineer's office will be glad to cooperate with all Torrance people and if they will tell us of any cases where they believe insufficient light is being used, we will investigate it at once and remedy the situation," Leonard added.

All Voters Must Re-register After Jan. 1; New Law Cited

All registrations will become invalid next January 1 and citizens must re-register after that date if they wish to enjoy a permanent voting power until the affidavit of registration is cancelled by the Registrar of Voters for any legal cause.

This information was forthcoming from Registrar of Voters Kerr this week. He also made public a calendar of all dates of any significance in connection with registration and election matters during 1932.

Must Vote to Hold Ballot
Kerr's latest points out that failure to vote at an August primary or November general election will result in cancellation of registration, the law providing that beginning January 1, 1932, and on January 1 of every odd-numbered year thereafter, the Registrar of Voters shall cancel from each precinct the original and duplicate affidavit of registration of all those electors who did not vote at the August primary or November general election of the next preceding even-numbered year.

The law also directs the Registrar of Voters to give official notification of the fact to any voter whose registration has been cancelled for that reason. The registration beginning with the new year will be in progress at all times except during that number of days immediately preceding any election which the State constitution requires for an elector to establish