

Torrance Herald



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CRAIL HOPING OIL EMBARGO WILL GO ON

Believes Demis. Would Like
to Help Oil Industry;
Embargo Only Hope

(Special to Torrance Herald)

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30.—Virtual paralysis of the oil industry of the United States versus the Democratic antipathy to a protective tariff—that is the difficult situation facing oil producers of the Los Angeles County district with the Democratic party in control of the House of Representatives and the House of Representatives and the importation of duty-free Venezuelan oil by a few big oil companies continuing unrestricted, according to Congressman Joe Crail.

In consideration of the attitude of the Democratic majority in the House, where all tariff measures must originate, Congressman Crail has introduced an emergency oil embargo bill directed against the importation of foreign oil believing that many Democrats would like to help the oil industry, if they could do so without subscribing to the tariff for protection theory, to which the Democratic party is fundamentally opposed.

Can Only Recommend

"Any tariff revision during 1933 by the Democrats undoubtedly will be downward," Congressman Crail said yesterday during a short holiday visit to Los Angeles. "They believe in a tariff for revenue only. I hope they will be willing to put an emergency embargo on the importation of oil until the proper tariff duty is levied by a future Congress."

The Tariff Commission has reported to Congress that the difference in the cost of production at home and abroad would justify a tariff of not less than one dollar a barrel on imported oil. The commission can increase or decrease the tariff on any article, but inasmuch as there is present no tariff on oil, they can only recommend in this instance, such as "therefore, briefly, my message to the oil producers of California is that, in view of the Democratic objections to a tariff for protection and the inability of the tariff commission to act in this instance, the only hope for the oil industry of the United States is in the nature of an embargo bill, such as the one I have introduced, as an emergency measure would not conflict with the principles of the Democratic party, which during this Congress will control legislation in the House of Representatives."

Sextet Finds Haven In Jail Christmas

Six pairs of socks hung over a gas stove in the city jail Christmas night—but the owners didn't find anything in them in the morning. The socks belonged to six men who were given sleeping accommodations in the jail. They had hung up the footwear to dry.

Christmas morning the sextet fared forth—bound for who-knows-where—but dry and refreshed from a good night's rest.

World Publicity To Be Given City In Feb. Magazine

Torrance and its industries will be given a prominent position in the special foreign and domestic trade number of the California Journal of Development, official organ of the California State Chamber of Commerce, according to Congressman Joe Crail.

This edition will go to every country in the world and will carry special articles with illustrations covering local industries. The publication has been entered by the Los Angeles board of harbor commissioners.

Masons Install Officers Jan. 8

Earl Babcock Takes Chair As
Worshipful Master

With Samuel E. Burke, past grand master of the state of California, as installing officer, the newly elected officers of Torrance lodge, F. & A. M., will be installed in office at an open meeting, Friday evening, January 8, at the Masonic Temple on Surfside avenue.

Earl Babcock takes the chair as worshipful master. Other officers-elect are Dr. O. E. Postum, senior warden; W. W. West, junior warden; J. H. Sprunt, secretary; E. W. senior deacon; E. H. Barlow, junior deacon; John Ferguson, marshal; E. N. Tomkins, chaplain, and George Dolton, tiller.

Many Families Get Christmas Baskets

One hundred sixty-eight well-filled Christmas baskets were distributed by the Torrance Relief Society the day before the great holiday. The society furnished the food for 50 baskets, the remainder being furnished by the Methodist church, Boy Scouts and individual residents. It is reported that the Elks lodge gave out 23 baskets locally. A complete report on the activities of the Relief Society this holiday season will be published in the Herald next week.

Oil Producers Asked To Hold Production To Old Dec. Order

Members of the Oil Producers Sales Agency of California were requested by that organization to hold their production to their allowable amount under the old December order of 187,500 barrels this week "in order to prevent a possible collapse or curtailment in California."

A production report as of December 22, just obtained from the oil empire of the state makes it apparent, according to a letter from the agency to all members, "that the program of curtailment is not acceptable in many quarters (including both majors and independents) as it seems that the order is in many ways unfair particularly to the small producer and this inherent weakness is creating a condition bordering closely to a rebellion against the order."

Figures Are Given

The report quoted refers to the December 22 production figures that were set by the general committee of the agency as indicative of the industry's attitude toward the program of allotment adopted by that committee December 16. It includes figures for the San Joaquin, Coastal District and Los Angeles Basin oil fields, the Torrance-Hermosa field's old December allotment was 5,750 barrels; the new allotment is 6,000 barrels and production to December 21 was 5,653 barrels.

HARBOR DISTRICT TO BE SCENE OF BIG JOBS IN 1932

Development of Harbor District properties by the "big four"—Southern California Telephone Company, Southern California Edison Company, Los Angeles Gas and Electric Corporation and the Pacific Electric Railway—during the past year has been marked by extensive additions and improvements essential to the utilities' present service position and their announcements of forward-looking programs for expansion in 1932 that must always be a step ahead of the general development of this district.

This was the consensus of reports made public by the four great concerns this week. To these statements may be added the contents of a letter by W. M. Jeffers, vice president of the Union Pacific system, who stated that while "it is not practical to state at this time just what work will be done in the Harbor district next year, as our budget will not be acted upon until after the first of the year," the Union Pacific is now purchasing right-of-way for the Long Beach cut-off and as soon as this is completed, it expects to proceed with the construction.

And—by taking the concluding statement of the Southern California Edison Company's report as a text, because it is emphasized by each of the other three companies as well, "greater demands are sure to come with the turn of business conditions into a new cycle of activity in 1932."

Planning—The Future

Involved and extensive as the reports are, it is not the purpose of this story to chronicle the past—a past filled with much activity by each of the utilities despite unfavorable economic conditions.

(Continued on 4-A)

LEGION GRID PLAYER DIES FROM CRASH

Was New Member of Squad;
Girl Badly Hurt In
Same Accident

Most of the members of the Legion football team will attend today's services at Compton this afternoon for Daniel R. Clark, of Huntington Park, who succumbed Saturday morning to injuries received in an automobile accident at the intersection of Carson street and Alameda boulevard Christmas morning. Clark played right guard on the Legion team in the last game with the Western Eagles.

He had stopped at Manager Tommy Bowker's house, 2517 El Dorado, Christmas morning to learn when the rain-postponed Yuletide game would be played, and then started for his home in Huntington Park with Miss Debra Chaudler, Los Angeles, a student at U. S. C. Miss Chaudler was critically injured in the crash and her condition is serious. She suffered a fractured skull and possible internal injuries.

The driver of the other car was Chiyoco Takuchi, Compton Junior College student, who was only slightly hurt. Both Clark and Miss Chaudler were pushed to a Compton hospital. An inquest is being held in Compton this afternoon. Takuchi was held by police. Clark was a new player on the Legion eleven and had given exceptional promise as a strong lineman. His sudden death came as a shock to the friends he had so recently made here.

Fire Menace Curtailed In L. A. County

Forest fires played less havoc in the Los Angeles County watersheds during the 1931 fire season than in previous years, according to a report filed with the Conservation Association of Los Angeles county. The reports stated that a total of 422 separate blazes had destroyed 4,077 acres of valuable watershed cover and timber during 1931, requiring an expenditure of \$13,844.92 for suppression, exclusive of other expenses.

It was a very favorable season," was the comment of Wm. V. Mendenhall, supervisor of the Angeles National Forest. "The long period of high relative atmospheric humidity in midsummer effectively stopped many of the normal fire hazards we had planned for. White portions of the West were battling devastating forest fires. Southern California was practically free from the smoke of blazing woodlands."

"Much of the success of the present fire season was due to excellent public cooperation in observing fire laws," according to Spence D. Turner, County Forester. Turner reported that his department had worked on 370 fires during the past year.

Gliders Perform At Local Field

If E. G. Rowell, of Carson street, hadn't yelled up at his glider-piloting son, Guy, at the Hollywood Riviera field and ordered him to land, Guy might have gone without his Christmas dinner. He was aloft 35 minutes to win first place in duration flight.

Ted Jenks, also of Torrance, won first events in duration of secondary plane and first in the sailplane.

Young Rowell took a ducking in the Pacific for the benefit of newscaper cameramen when he intentionally landed in the water. Needless to say, the cameramen were delighted with the episode. The events at the Torrance-Hollywood Riviera field were the second in a series of six pre-Olympic meets.

School Print Shops Cannot Take 'Jobs', Bouelle Declares

School print shops are to be limited to the publication of school papers, annuals, authorized school forms and material for instructional purposes only, according to a bulletin just issued by Superintendent of Schools Frank A. Bouelle, as a result of a ruling at a principal's meeting in December.

No orders for printing are to be taken by the head of any school print shop, by the principal of the school, from any individual or business concern. Under the ruling all requests from within or outside of the school, except those actually to be used in school work, are to be refused. "Print shop facilities are not to be used for any purpose that is of a purely personal nature."

The whole intent of the regulation is to eliminate competition of every description with commercial printing concerns. Under the present rule requests for courtesy service from any church, fraternity or other organization is also to be refused. The superintendent's bulletin also requested every principal to give the matter immediate attention to the end that criticism of the school print shops may be eliminated.

EXTENSION OF WESTERN AVE. IS UP TO CITY

Los Angeles Gives County
Permission to Open,
Widen Avenue

When the city council meets next Tuesday evening, one of the session's highlights is expected to be the discussion and possible action on the county's request that the city of Torrance grant the supervisors jurisdiction to carry out the opening and widening of Western avenue from its present terminus at El Prado and the Pacific Electric tracks through to San Pedro.

The Los Angeles city council granted jurisdiction to carry out this improvement through Los Angeles territory to the county Saturday and the county is reported now prepared to push the project as soon as it receives permission from the local city council to handle the work through Torrance.

The proceedings only call for the opening and widening at the present time. Anything in not mentioned and will probably be a future step in the extension of Western avenue.

Want to Know Exact Cost

At the last city council meeting here, the matter of granting the county permission to start the work was held up pending a report from the supervisors as to what a "nominal" assessment would amount to. The "nominal" cost was mentioned by the county as the probable cost to local property owners in the assessment area.

There was some talk that local property owners should be relieved of all cost in the project because of an asserted agreement between the city of Los Angeles and Torrance back in 1924 when this community improved Western avenue north of Torrance to 190th street at no cost to Los Angeles property owners abutting on Western.

According to City Engineer Leonard there was no such an agreement made, but he is attempting to "pin down" the exact cost to local property owners by contacting the county engineer's office. Until such an estimate is received, it is quite likely that the city council will take no action on the county's request.

So. Cal. Edison Moves On Jan. 1

Larger Office, Show Room
at 1328 Sartori

On Saturday, January 2, the Southern California Edison Company will open its new office and salesroom here in the Bank of America building, 1328 Sartori avenue. Removal of the office equipment and electric appliances from the present location at 119 Marcelina avenue will be accomplished New Year's Day.

The new office and showroom will provide a larger space for the equipment and display room. The interior of the building has been provided for the many electrical appliances for the home and office that are sold by the Southern California Edison Company.

Kiwanis Club To Install Officers at Party Monday

All members of the Torrance Kiwanis club, their wives, friends and guests will gather at the Hollywood Riviera clubhouse Monday evening, January 4, for the service organization's annual installation dinner dance.

President Sam Rappaport will formally turn the gavel over to President-elect Henry E. "Hank" Ullright and the following new officers will be installed: Rappaport as district trustee; C. A. Paxman as vice president; C. T. Rippey as treasurer.

The principal speaker will be Clifford E. Reid, developer of Hollywood Riviera and district officer who have been invited to attend the dinner. The new directors of the club are: Dr. Frank E. Bishop, Charles Schultz, Frank Steinhaber, Micheal Strasser, Alfred Turner, L. J. Acree and John Holm.

Torrance Looks at 1932; Civic Resolutions Listed

By Micheal Strasser

What Torrance needs most in this coming year of 1932 is not a good five-cent cigar but a sample of that good old-fashioned Prosperity that father used to talk about.

A kind of Prosperity that will permit us to stand on the street corners and, while jingling a few dollars in our pockets—dollars that are burning to be spent—talk about "I remember when that depression took us."

Better times is what we want. More factory whistles and more sweat on these honest Torrance brows now furrowed with worry. More pay rolls and fewer "relief benefits"; more steel mills and fewer steel scabbies. More home building and less home wrecking.

What 32 Can Bring Us

If it were in the power of the writer, there would be three things happen in Torrance in 1932 which would be of prime importance to the happiness and welfare of every resident.

In '32 we would have:

Prosperity 'til it hurts.

A city owned and operated water system.

And a municipal park with playgrounds galore.

Those, dear readers, are, in this scribble's opinion, the three best things that a volunteer Nineteen-Thirty-Two can drop on our municipal doorstep any day during the next 12 months of his life.

Some Good Resolutions

But there are other things which might be accomplished here while the new calendars are being used. Let's look into the future and pick out a few "resolutions" for the benefit of our community:

RESOLVED, that the factories, oil field, business in general, and home building be subject to a strong, steady push up the scale to the everlasting elimination of unemployment and doleful faces. There are signs—unmistakable and certain—on the horizon that 1932 reports from building contractors that during this last quarter of 1931, reconstruction and remodeling have increased construction employment nearly up to normal. The low cost of materials is given as a reason for this "good job" work that is helping to bring employment to the almost certainty of an oil tariff or embargo being passed during the present session of Congress. Either would be a big boost to both the oil industry as well as manufacturers of oil tools and equipment.

RESOLVED, that the litigation surrounding the \$400,000 water bond be settled and operations start on a public owned and operated water system. This one item on our progressive calendar will help a lot in the uplift of community spirit as well as putting dollars in our pockets. Recent reports relative to the water bond suit indicate that a final decision on the matter in the State Supreme Court is looming in the near future and that the court's (Continued on Page 8-A)

VOTER ROLL TO BE MADE PERMANENT

Complete and permanent registration of every eligible voter in Los Angeles county will begin January 1. The registration will be completed March 24. Local deputies are ready to canvass the city beginning New Year's Day in order to qualify all possible voters.

"When a citizen registers after January 1, he will not have to register again during his lifetime in Los Angeles county unless he removes his residence or fails to vote at the August primaries, or the November general election," Ed Clarkson, one of the local deputy registrars, said yesterday. Other deputies who will work in Torrance are Mrs. Laura G. Anderson, 1510 Engracia avenue, phone 330-W, and H. Christopherson who lives at 2415 Carson street.

Clarkson, who lives at 1915 220th street and whose phone is 195-J, said that if a citizen fails to vote at the polls for either the primary or general election, his name will be stricken from the registration lists and he will be notified by the registrar that he must again go through the formality of registration.

The last day to register for the general election and municipal election in Torrance is March 2, March 24 is the last day to register for the primary election.

Telephone Girls Distribute Cheer

Santa Claus appeared at the local telephone office, December 23, in response to a telephone call from a group of excited children. Mrs. Odra V. Blazsack, manager, and Mrs. Laura Turcotte, chief operator, had "talked it over" with the other employees and all agreed to give each other expensive presents but to do something instead for the families of local unemployed.

Mrs. Caroline Collins of the Torrance Relief Society, by request, brought 11 children who needed Christmas cheer to the exchange. A beautifully decorated tree had been placed in the operators' rest rooms. The children talked to Santa Claus over the telephone and then he came in to see them—but via the wire chief's room instead of a chimney. Each child had a gift, fruit and candy, and the girls served them lavishly helpings of cake, jello and chocolate.

Benefit Grid Game To Be Held Sunday

Because of the rainstorm Christmas morning, the benefit football game which was to have been played at the High school field here between the Torrance Legion team and the West Coast Theatre eleven was postponed until next Sunday morning, January 3. The game will start at 10 o'clock.

All those having tickets should keep them and attend the game Sunday. Proceeds from the game receipts will be turned over—100 per cent—to the Torrance Relief Society.

"GET YOUR MAN!" WILL BE LADIES' SLOGAN NEXT YEAR

By the United Press

Leap Year, just around the corner, spells opportunity for a half-million unmarried girls and women in California. Such is the belief of the state bureau of vital statistics, which warns all bachelors and unmarried, freedom-loving gentlemen to prepare for "a hard winter."

"If history repeats itself, the quadrennial mate-seeking search indulged in by the ladies is likely to become a far-reaching manhunt during the coming year," said the bureau.

Blondes or Brunettes?

Maybe it was the depression, or the "spin-marrriage" law, but the fact remains that the bottom dropped out of the matrimonial market in California this year. Upwards of 2,000 fewer marriages were recorded than in 1930.

In Los Angeles county there are 192,687 girls of marriageable age—16 years or over, according to Uncle Sam's figures. This doesn't take into account 125,000 widows and 33,471 divorcees.

The open season begins January 1, 1932, after which time any man out of harness, even temporarily, will be fair prey. During the 366 days of the year, proof may be definitely forthcoming as to whether gentlemen prefer blondes or brunettes.

HIGH WIND, HEAVY RAINS SWEEP CITY

Exactly two inches of rain taxed the capacity of local gutters here during the storm Monday. The deluge brought the season's total to date to 8.13 inches. Last year this time only 1.66 inches of rain had fallen. There was no damage reported from the heaviest storm of the year. On Torrance boulevard near Redondo water mixed with oil from a broken pipe line made the highway impassable for a time.

Resembling a miniature hurricane, a high wind struck Torrance Christmas day at the peak of a heavy rain- storm. The wind's damaging effect was confined to the vicinity of Cabrillo avenue at Gramercy avenue, Carson street and Border avenue, according to reports.

A garage was almost completely unroofed at 1101 Border avenue. Two plate glass windows were blown in at the D. C. Turner shoe repair shop at Gramercy and Cabrillo avenues and the Consolidated Lumber Company at 213 Border avenue was damaged. The storm brought 50 of an inch of rain Friday. The total for the season was swelled to 4.15 inches.

Heavy rainfall and high winds were also reported at Long Beach and Redondo, where a heavy surf pounded the shore line and suspended deep sea fishing.

Children Throng To 3 Christmas Programs Here

Loud speakers, cops and firemen meant nothing to the 1650 youngsters who swarmed to meet Santa Claus at the municipal Christmas party here last Wednesday evening. They waited patiently while the churches of the city produced a beautiful Yuletide program of carols, tableaux and Biblical readings—but at the close of the short program the presentation of gifts was their affair and they took over the situation.

The afternoon approximately 300 children enthusiastically greeted Santa Claus, who was dressed in a show, giving special attention to the smallest horse in the world. It was a fine program of unusual stunts by the dogs and it was evident that the children derived as much pleasure from their appearing audience of youngsters as the children did of the animals' acts.

The third children's Christmas event—a free matinee at the Torrance Theatre Thursday afternoon, drew a capacity crowd. Many brought canned goods and other foodstuffs which Manager Frank Higgins turned over to the Torrance Relief Society for distribution where it was needed. Highest annual Christmas treat drew the largest number of children in the history of the theatre, he said.

MARKETS TO STAY OPEN
All food markets in Torrance will remain open until 8 p. m. Thursday night, for the convenience of local shoppers preparing for New Year's Day.