

Only Newspaper
Published In Torrance

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Consolidated
Edition
Torrance Herald
and Lomita News

One
Section
8 Pages
This Issue

Torrance Herald

EIGHTEENTH YEAR—No. 46

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1932

5c PER COPY

CHAMBER-COMMERCE PLANS TOLD BY PRESIDENT LANZ

Believes Industrial Expansion Program Will Be Benefit to
All; Boosts Trading In
Torrance

The future of Torrance depends upon industrial expansion, and every possible effort will be made to encourage new industries to locate here, however large or small. Torrance should lead in industrial development as it is situated in an enviable location and possesses many advantages which are not found in other Southern California communities.

We shall direct our efforts independently of other organizations in the county, as we believe we can secure better results by working independently than by pooling our interests with other cities.

New industries mean larger payrolls, and we believe that by concentrating our efforts primarily on industrial expansion that we shall accomplish the most good for the most people in Torrance. It will mean additional work for the unemployed, new tenants for the property owner, increased trade for the retailer, and with the ultimate growth of the city, which always follows industrial development, all property will be enhanced in value.

The Chamber of Commerce will be absolutely non-political and non-partisan in its organization and work.

The directors welcome constructive criticisms and suggestions from everyone, and the success of the chamber's activities will depend largely upon the enthusiastic and unstinted effort of active membership committees.

These are highlights in the policies of the newly organized Torrance Chamber of Commerce as outlined this week by President Bert W. Lanz, general superintendent of the Columbia Steel Company. Lanz was unanimously chosen president of the Chamber of Commerce last Thursday afternoon by the newly elected board of directors. Other officers appointed were: DeKalb Spurlin, president; Fred Isaacs, vice president; Donald Finley, treasurer, and L. J. Gilmeister, secretary. Mrs. Phoebe J. Milburn, who has been social service secretary of the chamber since 1929, will continue as "city hostess" and greeter to welcome new residents.

Lanz Well Fitted

President Lanz is admirably well qualified to direct the Chamber of Commerce in its drive for new industries, as he has devoted his entire adult lifetime to the study of industrial problems. When but a lad of 11 years, Bert Lanz secured his first job in the steel mills of Jones & Laughlin at Pittsburgh, Pa. His first experience was in the blooming mill, but he later joined the sheet mill force. From Pittsburgh, Pa., young Lanz went with the Otis Steel Company at Cleveland, where he remained for 12 years.

Came to California

In 1924, Lanz came to California and took a position as foreman of the sheet mill of the Columbia Steel Corporation at Pittsburgh. He was later promoted to superintendent of the sheet department.

Four years ago, he was again promoted and transferred to Torrance as general superintendent of the local plant, which position he still holds.

Other Activities

While industrial expansion will be the primary objective of the chamber for the coming year, President Lanz stated that full recognition will be given to other civic developments, which can properly be encouraged by the Chamber of Commerce, without interfering in municipal affairs or political activities. Welfare work, merchandising, transportation and kindred activities will be carried on by separate bureaus organized under the Chamber of Commerce.

President Lanz stated that it was the plan of the directors to call together the heads of various civic and social clubs for a frank and open discussion of civic problems, and that as soon as a complete program was perfected, a city-wide banquet will be held to explain the objectives of the chamber to the entire citizenry and ask its assistance and support.

Long Beach Man May Head Department

Appointment of James K. Reid of Long Beach as superintendent of the county parks and playgrounds department was scheduled to be made this week by the board of supervisors. Reid, formerly a member of the civil service commission, resigned, took the examination which was held, passed third, but the two men ahead were expected to step aside, as both are county employees.

Hyde Devoting Time to Harbor District Report

Former Chamber of Commerce Secretary Has Plans
After January 1

The resignation of Carl L. Hyde as secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce terminates a long term of civic service, as active executive of the organization. Perhaps no person in Torrance is so well and favorably known to the host of county officials and municipal executives as Carl Hyde. In the many years he has represented Torrance, he has made many valuable contacts which have been beneficial to this city, and his retirement is keenly regretted by his host of friends in Torrance and throughout the county.

When asked regarding his plans for the future, Mr. Hyde stated that he would continue as secretary of the Harbor District Survey Committee until the first of the year, when other plans now under consideration will materialize. He stated that he was not at liberty to disclose the nature of his plans at this time.

An executive meeting of the Harbor District Survey Committee will be held at Earl's Cafe Friday noon, Mr. Hyde stated. At this time, the committee, headed by John F. Craig, president of the Long Beach Building & Loan and executive of the Craig Shipbuilding Company, will go over the text of the first report soon to be published by the committee.

To Boost Industry



CHAMBER CHIEFS

Bert W. Lanz, (above) newly elected president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, is general superintendent of the Columbia Steel Company. L. J. Gilmeister, (right above) formerly assistant secretary of the chamber, has been appointed secretary, succeeding Carl L. Hyde. Mrs. Phoebe Milburn, (lower) has been re-appointed social service secretary. All photos courtesy of Press-Telegram, Long Beach.



Establish County Relief Department Headquarters Here

County officials were in Torrance this week looking for temporary quarters to be occupied by the county welfare department in charge of the Torrance district relief work.

This work has hitherto been carried on from the Inglewood headquarters, but with the opening of the new county health center at Torrance it is proposed to establish the relief work headquarters for this district in the second floor of the new building. As this part of the building will not be ready for occupancy before the first of the year the county has decided to locate in temporary quarters until the health center location is ready.

A staff of about 20 workers will be brought to Torrance.

Plaintiffs Lose Suit To Hinder Aqueduct Work

Supreme Court at Washington Finds in Favor of District

The persistent opposition which has dogged the progress of proceedings to get the Colorado river aqueduct started lost another legal decision this week when the District of Columbia supreme court ruled that it was legally proper for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to purchase \$40,000,000 of the Metropolitan Water District's bonds. Justice Oscar E. Lathing dismissed the taxpayers' suit for an injunction to halt the purchase. The suit had been brought by eight residents of Southern California.

News of the decision was telegraphed to James H. Howard, general counsel for the district, in which Torrance is one of the member cities. Howard has been in Washington, D. C., recently during the litigation.

The suit was filed by Ralph P. Burnham of Pasadena and other taxpayers. One of them was J. E. Burney of Long Beach, who has perhaps been the most active opponent of the water district in a long series of battles in the California courts. "Best efforts to keep the federal agency from advancing funds met with a decisive defeat in the courts."

Gratification at the outcome of the suit was expressed by district officials. It was indicated that a date would soon be fixed for receiving bids on the first block of \$2,016,000 worth of the bonds. Directors specified several weeks ago that this should be the size of the first block.

Private interests will have the opportunity of entering bids at the same time and if they make a sufficient offer a sale will be made to them and the federal financing agency will be relieved of the necessity of buying them. The government corporation has agreed, however, to assure the sale of at least \$40,000,000 worth of the securities, sufficient to finance work for two years.

Two Issues Next Week

Two issues of the Torrance Herald will be published during Thanksgiving week—the first issue to be distributed early Tuesday morning and the second at noon Friday. Food stores and other advertisers are planning attractive pre-Thanksgiving values for the Tuesday morning issue and the Friday issue will contain week-end offerings. The complete newspaper and shopper circulation will be given both issues. Watch for them before breakfast Tuesday morning and shortly after lunch Friday. The Herald office will be closed all day Thursday, Thanksgiving Day.

Armed Bandits Stage Hold-up At Shoe Store

Manager of Karl's Kustom-made Shoes Is Robbery
Victim

Two armed bandits who entered the store about 8:30 p. m. Saturday, held-up I. Blum, manager of Karl's Kustom-made Shoe Store, 1277 S. Sartori avenue, and escaped with about \$60 in cash and a number of checks. The total loot is estimated at about \$100, which is covered by insurance.

Blum reported that the two men, both well dressed and about 25 years old, came into the store just about closing time Saturday night ostensibly to make purchases. After both were fitted with new shoes, one of the bandits offered a \$20 bill in payment. As Blum looked up from the cash register, he faced a gun and was ordered to get into the back room where the bandits proceeded to gag and blind him, hand and foot. The bandits then made off with the contents of the cash register, wearing their new shoes and carrying their old ones.

Blum's condition was not discovered until after some 15 or 20 minutes had passed, when Mrs. Ernest Ashton, wife of Night Patrolman Ernest Ashton, entered the store to make a purchase and heard Blum struggling in the back of the store. She called E. L. Emenegger, manager of the Woolworth store, who released Blum. The bandits had stuffed paper into his mouth and tied a handkerchief across his face. His hands were tied behind his back with a piece of damp wrapping cord and his feet drawn up behind him and tied with the same cord.

Investigation was started by the Torrance police department and the county sheriff's office, but no trace of the two debonair bandits has been uncovered. Blum described them as Americans, well dressed, wearing no hats and with hair slickly combed. No street lights were burning on the corner where the store is located due to the city's curtailment schedule, and it is believed by many that the holdup and escape of the bandits was aided by the comparative darkness.

Heavy Damages Awarded In Suit

Judgment in the sum of \$35,470 has been awarded by Superior Judge Minor Moore against Richard S. Plaherty, former Buick agency owner of Torrance, in a suit brought by Mrs. Clara S. Livingston for damages. On October 11, 1930, Frank P. Livingston, husband of the complainant, was fatally injured when he was struck by Plaherty's plane as the latter was making a landing on Livingston's Morongo Valley ranch.

In making the decision, Judge Moore held that if an aviator descends on the land of another without being forced to do so, without knowledge of the nature of the terrain and without adequate ground lights, he assumes all the risk of injuring property or destroying life.

All Ready For Charity Ball

Police and Firemen's Annual Dance Tomorrow Night

Tomorrow night is the big night in Torrance, when the annual Police and Firemen's dance will be held for the benefit of charity. Tickets have been selling for the past several weeks, and it is expected that the large hall at Recreation Center, 1953 Carson Street, will be filled to its capacity.

The upper floor will be given over to dancing, with tables on the main floor for bridge, 500 and pinocchio players. The very low price asked for the tickets has insured a record attendance. Tom Ulrich's orchestra will furnish music for dancing.

YOUNG MEN BOUND OVER TO THE SUPERIOR COURT

Eugene T. Sawyer and Ferdinand Ittner, arraigned in the justice court on bad check charges Tuesday, were held to the superior court in bonds of \$2500 each, by Judge John Dennis. The young men were returned to the county jail to await their trial.

TORRANCE POPULATION SHOWS INCREASE IN PAST TWO YEARS

Survey Filed With Board of Supervisors Indicates Steady
Growth of Local Community; Health Center
To Serve 50,000 Persons

The new Torrance health center will serve an area of approximately 50,000 persons, it was estimated today by the county health department as preparations were being made to open the handsome new structure now nearing completion.

That the new structure was a genuine need is shown by the fact that 107,227 persons are being served in the southwest section of the county, with the principal health office in Inglewood.

MANY SIGNERS FAVOR SMALL PARK PROJECT

Petition Circulated In Torrance Asks Council to
Act At Once

A petition backed by the mayor, members of the city council and signed by practically every business man in Torrance, besides numerous other interested citizens, is being circulated in the city which will be formally presented to the city council at an early date asking that steps be taken to acquire a 10-acre tract within the city limits for park and playground purposes.

The measure is meeting with popular approval for two very good reasons. First, it will provide a permanent home for Torrance representatives in the athletic world, and second it will provide employment for those of the community who are now out of work, as it is the intention of those who are backing the project to avail themselves of the services of these men to level off the tract, set up equipment, and put the place in shape for use.

Besides a baseball diamond, large enough for either indoor or regular hard ball games, two tennis courts will be laid out, and space reserved for a smaller baseball ground for use by the juvenile teams of the city.

In addition to these plans it is expected that there will still be space left for picnic grounds for those who wish to spend a day in the open, and trees and shrubbery will be planted to make an inviting spot, open fireplaces will be provided and rest rooms built.

The site now tentatively under consideration will be near enough to the residential district to permit easy access and still far enough away that no one will be annoyed by the noise and dust of a ball game or other athletic contest. Should the project be successfully carried out, the ball park now in use will probably be abandoned and its equipment transferred to the municipally owned park. As the financial arrangements covering the present ball park are tentative and subject to change, the change to a permanently located municipal park would be welcomed by those who are interested in baseball, either as promoters or as spectators.

At a meeting of the National Night Ball League officials held Monday night at Huntington Beach, the announcement of the proposal to acquire a permanent playground and park by Torrance municipal authorities was greeted with pleasure and enthusiasm among the representatives of the pastime from such communities as Santa Ana, Anaheim, Riverside, Long Beach, and others equally important, as an indication of the progressive and alert spirit of the Torrance community.

Board "Files" Report On Separation Plan

The county board of supervisors has "received and filed" the report of its bureau of efficiency on the plan of Los Angeles city to form a separate county within the city. The supervisors expressed no opinions when the report came before them officially. The report branded the metropolitan city's proposal as an attempt to increase its revenues at the expense of smaller cities in the county.

Population figures of the principal cities in the district, as of July 1, 1932, were given in a special tabulation filed with the board of supervisors.

Population of Torrance is given as 8681. Estimates of population are based on the United States census of April 1, 1930, extended by arithmetical formula, it was explained.

Torrance population on July 1, 1931, was estimated at 8954, and on July 1, 1930, 7427.

The city of Redondo, which also is to be served by the new Torrance health center, is the larger city in the new district to be created. Its population as of last July 1 was estimated at 10,314. Comparison of the estimated population in the two preceding years reveals that it has not grown as fast as Torrance, however.

Redondo's population July 1, 1931, was given as 9901, and on July 1, 1930, 9458.

Thus Torrance added 1254 and Redondo but 586 to its population over the same period of time, it was estimated in the report.

Other Cities' Growth
Gardena's population is given as follows: July 1, last, 4420; July 1, 1931, 3900 (1930 figure omitted).

Hermosa Beach, was as follows: July 1, last, 5153; July 1, 1931, 5106, and July 1, 1930, 4559.

Manhattan Beach was the smallest of the five, as follows: July 1, last, 2124; July 1, 1931, 2021, and July 1, 1930, 1918.

Added to these figures is an estimated 20,000 for rural areas, bringing the total to 50,922.

Inglewood has 23,123. Population of Inglewood was estimated at 23,123 last July 1. Hawthorne had 7106, and El Segundo, 3929.

Rural population in the Inglewood area was estimated at 21,837, bringing the total for the area which the center will serve to 56,305.

There were a total of 107,227 persons residing in these cities and the rural districts as of last July 1, it was stated.

Annual Report Features Local Plant Expansion

Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce Devotes Space to Industry

The \$2,000,000 to be expended in added industrial developments by the Columbia Steel Company and the General Petroleum plant is the highlight of the annual report of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, filed with the board of supervisors this week.

These industrial concerns were induced to locate their added facilities here partly through the chamber's efforts, it was stated. The Columbia expansion, Secretary A. G. Arnold pointed out, followed the establishment of the Chrysler factory, the Ford assembly plant at Long Beach and the Willys-Overland plant in Los Angeles. Modern rolling mills are being installed for the production of full-finished sheets used by the automobile industry for fenders and aprons.

The Chrysler, Ford and Willys-Overland plants originally were set up for the San Francisco east bay district. It was pointed out by Arnold, but Los Angeles county's advantages, pointed out to company officials through the Chamber of Commerce, induced them to come to Torrance and Los Angeles.

WEDDING CEREMONY

Judge John Dennis officiated Sunday at the marriage of Miss Mary Elizabeth Strong and F. K. Neabak of Terminal Island. The ceremony was performed at the home of the justice, 1621 Annapolis avenue. Witnesses to the ceremony were Daisy and Fred Best.