

# SMITH fails to get CONTACT

An Editorial—  
By LUTE FRASER

Following a meeting of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce directors, held Monday afternoon, Dr. Alden Smith, president of the Kiwanis Club, was appointed a committee of one to present the views of Torrance to Frank Bouelle, superintendent of the Los Angeles city schools, on the subject of athletics.

The Chamber of Commerce directors agreed that the present situation which deprives the Torrance athletes and others of city schools of their right to defend their titles by competition in the big meets of the coming track season, is unjust and unfair to the boys and deprives the community of its right to determine its own policy along these lines.

All day Tuesday and Wednesday Dr. Smith tried unsuccessfully to secure an interview with Mr. Bouelle. According to the latter's secretary, Mr. Bouelle was "very busy and out of the office." So far efforts to reach the superintendent have come to naught. This makes the chances for the Torrance athletes to get into the Long Beach relays, postponed from last Saturday to March 9, very precarious, for unless the boys can be assured ahead of time that they will be permitted to enter there will be no time to get ready.

The relay teams had been training until this week but have practically given up hopes of competing.

With this city paying a larger share of the school costs in the city system than the average small town, it seems ridiculous that it should be deprived of its right to be heard at least, and until a personal interview is granted and the matter thoroughly thrashed out, the efforts to get in touch with Mr. Bouelle will be continued.

This city is said to be third in the matter of taxes paid into the city school system funds, and yet it is one of the smallest units. Because it is small, apparently the powers that be feel justified in turning a deaf ear to its requests for a hearing. The jingle of tax money, however, has marvelous carrying powers.

Unless an interview with Mr. Bouelle can be arranged today it is possible that efforts will be made to enlist the aid of other powerful organizations which have more ready access to the sanctuary. Dr. Smith was prepared with a resolution from the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, and letters from various organizations here asking the superintendent for a favorable ruling on the athletics question, but these have not yet been presented since there seems to be no chance to get a hearing.

## Engineers Rush Plans For Outfall Sewer Preparing To Call For Bids

Engineers for the county sanitation districts today were rushing to complete plans on the \$2,000,000 White Point outfall sewer, in order that the district may put out its call for bids, possibly at the regular meeting of the directors scheduled for next Tuesday and Wednesday.

A. K. Warren, chief engineer, said it was impossible for him to determine yet at the middle of the week whether the detailed plans could be completed by Tuesday noon. Total length of the line to be constructed from the disposal plant north of Wilmington is 4,817 feet, a part of it to be built through the Palos Verdes hills. The huge pipe will be eight feet in diameter, in the shape of a horseshoe, with the flat part at the bottom. The tunnel will be lined with reinforced concrete, of which 46,000 cubic yards will be required, Warren estimates. During construction, however,

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# NEW LIBRARY BUILDING IS PLANNED

## FINAL ACTION TAKEN IN SALE WATER BONDS

Ordinance Adopted to Sell \$128,000 Worth of Bonds to PWA

Final action in the sale of \$128,000 of municipal water bonds to the Public Works Administration was taken by the Torrance city council at an adjourned meeting Monday evening. A \$42,000 grant from the federal government was included in the offer of the PWA. The \$170,000 to be received by the city is to be expended in improving the present distributing system and developing a local water supply.

City Attorney C. T. Rippey was instructed to order the printing of bonds and to attend to other legal details incidental to the sale. An application will be made to the state superintendent of banks for approval of the water bonds as legal investments for savings banks.

Plans for drilling water wells, constructing an elevated pressure tank and installation of pumping equipment are already drawn and work will proceed as soon as the funds are received from Washington. The well and pumping site recently acquired from the Chasler-Canfield Midway Oil Company by the city is located west of Cedar avenue on Torrance boulevard, instead of at Madrona and Torrance boulevard as was erroneously stated in this paper recently.

## SMITHS RETURN after stormy trip ACROSS ATLANTIC

After a stormy voyage through blinding snow and treacherous gales encountered in the north Atlantic, Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Smith welcomed the sunny warmth of California upon their return to Torrance last Sunday.

Mr. Smith has been in Europe since last July on business for the National Supply Company. He was joined there three months ago by Mrs. Smith, and together they enjoyed a trip through Rumania. They also visited Vienna, Paris, London and other European cities before departing on the homeward journey. Their ship was delayed in sailing for two days by dense fogs off the coast of England and required two additional days to make the trip through the storm, arriving in New York on Sunday, February 24, four days late.

Mr. Smith is on the program at the joint Kiwanis-Rotary dinner meeting tonight at Earl's Cafe, and is expected to give an interesting account of his trip abroad, where he visited a number of Rotary Club meetings.

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## Work On Post Office Resumed

Work was resumed yesterday in the construction of the new Torrance postoffice building on Marcelina avenue and pouring of concrete was scheduled to begin today, according to Louis R. Smith, government inspector.

When excavation crews unearthed a strata of soft sand two weeks ago, the work was halted pending advice from Washington as to what methods should be used to insure a proper footing for the foundation walls. It was decided to dig through the soft sand and lay concrete to a deeper level.

## Colden Replies Defends Position On Outfall Sewer

February 25, 1935.  
"Mr. Grover C. Whyte, Editor, Torrance Herald, Torrance, California.  
"My dear Grover:  
"I received your spanking this morning but of course when you are in politics, you must expect most anything. I would always rather be spanked by a friend than an enemy.

"I want to make it quite plain that my opposition to the outfall sewer is not to the disposition of the sewage but to the location of the sewer and all parts of the district should have a proper sewage system. My objection was based wholly on the dumping of the sewage off the recreational shore and off one of the best residential sections of San Pedro. You know that San Pedro and Los Angeles have been at great expense to establish not only Pt. Pirn Park but also Cabrillo Beach which is used by all the people including Torrance and other points using the sewer. I have no objection to the disposal of this sewage through the harbor district if the sewage must be discharged in the ocean. I have even offered to assist in securing the right-of-way providing the sewage was diverted from the residential and recreational shoreline of San Pedro to the industrial section.

"Regardless of the argument for and against the proper disposal of sewage, I am of the personal opinion that the proper disposal of sewage is to reclaim the water for irrigation purposes and the solids for fertilizer, something on the plan in use at Pomona and at Pasadena. There is a large area of land in the Palos Verdes estate and at the Dominguez ranch that, in my opinion, could use the water profitably and would contribute much to the growth and development of Torrance and San Pedro. I believe that time will vindicate this theory of sewage disposal.

"As you probably know, I worked very hard to obtain subsistence homesteads in the vicinity of Torrance and Gardena and my greatest handicap was the lack of water available for irrigation. I always have felt that the water wasted in the ocean might have found a more valuable use in Southern California.

"I very deeply appreciate the situation concerning the industries of Torrance. I have always been ready to assist them in every way I could. Last summer you will remember I was in conference with a committee of your citizens and lent every aid possible to the solution of your problem. My candid opinion is that if the people of Torrance would thoughtfully consider the problem, they would rather discharge the sewage through the industrial section of San Pedro than out in the front yard of its park, playground and residential section.

"Get me right—my opposition was based upon the point of outfall. If this question could have been solved satisfactorily, I should have been glad to have assisted you in any way possible.  
"Sincerely yours,  
"CHAS. J. COLDEN."

## Golf Course Planned At Alondra Park as a Federal Transient Project

Within a year, if all goes well, a new 18-hole golf course will be opened to the public at Alondra Park, with the launching of an extensive work project this week by the federal transient service.

The work camp at the park, along the side of River-side-Redondo boulevard is a transient camp rather than a CCC camp, it was explained, although both are federal undertakings.

The federal transient service has agreed to send at least 150 able-bodied men to the camp, to work on the park, according to J. R. Wimmer, assistant county forester in charge of park/development work throughout the county. Erection of buildings for the camp, including a mess-hall and a number of smaller buildings, is expected to be completed in a few days, weather permitting, Wimmer said.

Development of the park site will proceed according to a master plan prepared some time ago by the county regional planning commission, according to Wimmer. First to be tackled will be the matter of drainage. A lake will be developed in connection with this.

The 18-hole golf course is 70 percent completed as far as grading for greens and trees is concerned, Wimmer said. Soon will come adequate provisions for watering and then the seeding of the course.

Approximately 25 men are working on the park site now, but when the new camp is operating at full speed there will be a large amount of work done on several projects at once, it was stated.

## NEW ORDINANCE plumbing-electric WORK PROPOSED

Drafting of a new city ordinance to regulate plumbing and electrical work was ordered by the Torrance city council Monday evening upon recommendation of Herbert Summers, building inspector, who stated that the present ordinances governing this type of work were "badly out of date," and that they permitted a menace of fire and to health. Summers recommended that the sale of unsafe and cheaply made electrical appliances be prohibited, stating that all such equipment should bear the approval of the Underwriters' Laboratories as a matter of public safety.

## NURSE WAKES to see prowler LEAVING ROOM

Mrs. Mary Norton, nurse at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital, on night duty, awoke last Thursday afternoon, in time to see a prowler leaving her room at the Nurses Home. On investigation, Mrs. Norton found that \$5 had disappeared from her purse. At about the same hour, 3:30 o'clock, Mrs. L. T. Brown, 907 Portola, reported the loss of \$10 from a purse. The prowler was reported to be a young man wearing light colored cords, but so far no arrests have been made.

## 20,000 Clubs Celebrate

Last week, in the report of the Founders day celebration held by the Fern Avenue Parent Teachers Association, the statement was made that during the month of February 1,000 associations celebrated this event. This figure was incorrect, and should have read, 1,000 associations per day for each of the 20 school days in the month, or 20,000 celebrations in all.

Since the organization of fathers councils, the Fern Avenue Parent Teachers Association has been honored by having some fathers in attendance at each of its meetings.

**TREE PLANTING**  
The World Friendship tree planting ceremony scheduled for 9:30 this morning, was postponed on account of the rain until Monday evening at 8 o'clock.

## Rainfall Is Twice That Of 1934

Although this section has received about twice the rainfall it had last year, so far during the season, the rain continues to patter down every so often. Some of the pattering are copious, amounting to almost a deluge, as occurred last Saturday afternoon when more than an inch and a half of precipitation was recorded in the short space of a few hours.

The storm which blew up suddenly Saturday afternoon was accompanied by thunder and lightning, which set timid ones to shivering and the electric lights to flickering. Darkness overhung the city and other sections of the Southland for half an hour or more.

At San Pedro, favored onlookers were treated to the spectacle of a waterspout which swept in from the channel and damaged houses, trees and flooded streets at Point Pirn.

The streets in Torrance were turned into rivers, but thanks to the natural drainage the excess water soon disappeared. To date a total of nearly 16 inches of rain has fallen in Torrance this year. Last year the total at this date was 8.79 inches, and the precipitation was spread over a comparatively short period. This year rain began falling early and has continued at regular intervals, with much heavier precipitation in each storm.

Water levels in the wells and underground reservoirs are rising, which indicates that there will be no shortage of water this year.

## REHEARSALS start Saturday FOR ORCHESTRA

Children of the harbor district, between the ages of 6 and 17 years, are offered an opportunity to become musicians at no cost for training and only a nominal expense for instruments, according to Mrs. Marie E. Lewis, 2414 Lomita Drive, who is sponsoring a children's orchestra. Mrs. Lewis will train the members, and all children of the district are invited to join whether or not they have had any previous musical education.

Rehearsals open to the public will be held in the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall, located on Lomita boulevard, west of Narbonne, which the veterans are offering rent free to the project. The first rehearsal will be held Saturday, March 9, beginning at 10:30 o'clock. Those who attend are asked to bring their own musical racks if they have them.

Parents who wish to place their children in this group may communicate with Mrs. Lewis by telephone, Lomita 734-W, or call at her home.

## REGISTRATION in school district TAKES DROP

There are a total of 714,478 registered voters in the Los Angeles school district, which serves Torrance, Lomita, and other municipalities immediately adjacent to the city, it was announced this week by W. M. Kerr, registrar of voters.

The total is some 23,000 less than for the school district election two years ago, when four members of the board campaigned as the "four horsemen."

Total number of registered voters in areas outside Los Angeles city but within the Los Angeles school district was shown to be 115,189. The outside territories include Bell, Maywood, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Walnut Park, South Gate, part of Lynwood, Torrance, Harbor City, Lomita, Gardena, Beverly Hills, San Fernando city and Tujunga, now a part of Los Angeles city.

## UTOPIANS CHANGE DATE

The Utopian Society has changed its date of meeting from the second and fourth Monday each week to the second and fourth Wednesday. Meetings are held at the Social hall on Torrance boulevard.

## SERA OFFERS TO FURNISH LABOR AND 40 PERCENT MATERIALS

Committee of Six Appointed to Study Plans For Forming New Library District, and Report to City Council

Should Torrance go ahead with its plans to erect a modern new library building, the S. E. R. A. will furnish all the labor and pay 40 percent of the cost of materials, City Engineer F. R. Leonard was informed this week by R. F. Fairchild, chief project engineer for the S. E. R. A.

This will leave only the cost of the site and the remaining 40 percent of the cost of materials to be paid by the city. Roughly estimating the cost of the building at \$25,000, the city's share would be only about \$7,500, and it is believed that an appropriate site can be acquired at a very reasonable price at this time. The government looks with much favor on library projects, Mr. Leonard was told and for this reason the liberal assistance is offered.

A committee to study the entire library situation and report back to the city council was appointed by Mayor Scott R. Ludlow Monday. Members of the committee are Councilman W. T. Klusman, chairman, Councilman W. H. Stanger, City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, City Engineer F. R. Leonard, City Attorney C. T. Rippey and Grover C. Whyte, editor of the Torrance Herald.

One of the questions which the committee is studying is whether to establish a separate library district and recommend that the city operate its own library, or to continue to contract for this service with the county. At present a tax levy of six cents per \$100 assessed valuation is made against local property owners, which during the coming year will raise over \$10,000. A survey made a few years ago revealed that the cost to the county for operating the Torrance library was only \$4,000 per year.

Tentative plans for the new library building as outlined by Mayor Scott R. Ludlow include an assembly hall and quarters for the Chamber of Commerce. In a conversation with Miss Helen Vogelsang, county librarian, this morning, City Attorney Rippey learned that should the city decide to contract with the county, the county would have no objections to having such an assembly hall and Chamber of Commerce offices in the same building.

It has been suggested that a portion of the 10 per cent promotion tax be diverted to financing the cost of the library building, in which case the city may be able to erect a new building without increasing the tax rate, particularly if a separate library district is formed and the proceeds from the present 6 per cent county library tax is paid to the city instead of going to the county as at present. After the city is built and equipped, many believe that a better service for this community will be possible at a substantial saving in cost. It is also pointed out that in stocking a new library, the very latest editions could be purchased.

## Man Found Dead In The Pueblo

Jesus Fernandez, 35, residing at 2235 203rd street, was found dead at his home on Saturday, March 2. An autopsy disclosed the cause of death as heart trouble. He was an employee of the Columbia Steel Company. Funeral services were held Wednesday at 2 o'clock from the Church of Saints Peter and Paul in Wilmington, with interment in the Wilmington cemetery.

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## Aggie Students At Work On Commercial Acre Project In School Gardens

Eighty-six students in the agricultural department at the high school are working on an ambitious project, the development of a small farm home on a commercial half acre, under the direction of S. E. Merrill, department instructor, and have already made great progress in carrying out the plans.

This week a group of boys are constructing a small frame house of two rooms, living room and kitchenette, which will be equipped with gas and water. The building is constructed of lumber salvaged from the rehabilitation of the high school buildings, and will be completely finished throughout.

Surrounding the house are small buildings for housing the stock, a pig, a horse, chickens and other small stock, where they will be cared for by the pupils during the remainder of the semester. A large flock of baby chicks has already been received and are being cared for in one of the bungalows, made by members of the class.

Fonds for ducks have been built, and a sty, with cement floor, trough for feeding and a small pool for a wallow, have been built for the pig which is yet to be acquired. The horse is now housed.