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FEDERAL FUNDS FOR BUILDINGS ARE APPROVED

PRESIDENT SIGNS TORRANCE APPLICATION FOR PWA GRANT

Herald Learns Unofficially of Favorable Action; City's Application Given Priority Over Other County Projects in Re-Allocating PWA Funds

President Roosevelt has signed the application of the City of Torrance approving a \$54,595 grant by the Public Works Administration for the construction of the new city hall, municipal auditorium and public library. This information reached the Herald yesterday from a thoroughly reliable source, high in administrative circles at Washington. Official announcement by Secretary Ickes is anticipated as soon as the routine procedure of "checking" the award has been made by Comptroller General McCarl.

It was also learned by the Herald that the Torrance award was singled out from the long list of projects including many school districts, which expect to receive grants in the re-allocation of the \$26,000,000 PWA fund set aside for Los Angeles county. However, only the Torrance application, as yet, has been signed by President Roosevelt, it was stated.

As soon as the official announcement is made, the Torrance city council is prepared to accept bids for the sale of \$85,000 municipal bonds voted recently to defray the city's portion of the cost of the three buildings. Tentative plans call for adjournment of this evening's council meeting until Friday, so that in the event the official word from Washington is received by that time the bonds may be sold and construction contracts let.

With the PWA award assured, important decisions relative to the three new buildings will be made during the coming few days by the city council. The location of the library and auditorium must be decided. What curtailments will be necessary in the present plans for including a new jail building, garages and paving at the city hall site in order to come within the funds available must be determined. And finally the sale of the bonds and award of construction contracts must be consummated. However, all the important legal steps necessary to begin immediate erection of the three new buildings have been taken, and as soon as a few differences in opinion can be ironed out, everything is ready to go ahead with actual construction activities.

Objections Still Good Against City and County Consolidation Says Secretary of Efficiency Bureau

Objections raised by the county efficiency bureau three years ago to a proposal to separate Los Angeles city from the rest of the county still hold good, Secretary Harry F. Scoville said today.

Formation of Los Angeles city into a separate city and county would isolate some 34 parcels of territory from the rest of the county. Of these isolated parcels or islands, 12, including Torrance, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and San Fernando, are incorporated cities. Eleven of the 34 parcels are county territory, such as Universal City, West Hollywood and Sawtelle, entirely surrounded by incorporated cities.

New Counties
 "At least one new county is inevitable for the entire western strip of the present county, bordering on the ocean, because it would be cut off from eastern territory by the proposed city and county," Scoville said. "It may be argued that Torrance, Redondo Beach, Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, Culver City, Inglewood and Hawthorne may avoid formation of a separate county by annexation to the proposed new city and county of Los Angeles. However, if this were legally possible, it is probable and reasonable to expect that local pride and local politics would prevent indefinitely the union of these communities with the greater city.

"Turning to the south coastal area and the southeastern part of the county, with the example of Los Angeles city, it is con-

TURN TO STORY ONE
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Sewing Project Opens

Work For Women Furnished Under WPA Project Beginning Friday

Women of Torrance district who are on the relief rolls will welcome the announcement made yesterday of the re-opening of the sewing unit, as a WPA project, next Friday morning, November 29.

The unit will be located at 1335 Post avenue, formerly occupied by the Torrance Recreation Center. About 50 women are expected to start work on Friday, which number probably will be doubled in a short time. The work will be done in two shifts, the first starting at 7 a. m. to 12 o'clock, the second working from 12 to 5 o'clock p. m. Wages of \$55 per month will be paid, and the employment will be permanent at least for some time. A 30-hour week will be maintained.

Women who are eligible are only those who were on the regular relief rolls on November 1. No one will be signed up who was not on the rolls on that date, says City Engineer Frank Leonard. Workers are expected to be drawn from the district including Torrance, Lomita, Gardena, Redondo Beach and adjacent unincorporated territory.

NINE O'CLOCK MASS
 Holy mass will be celebrated at 9 o'clock a. m. Thanksgiving Day, at the Catholic Church of the Nativity, Rev. Thomas J. Kennedy, pastor, announced today.

It would be logical to include this adjacent property in the new district, which would effect still further reductions of school costs, without in any way impairing the present standard of educational facilities or infrastructure, it has been pointed out.

CONTRACTS LET ON 3 UNITS IN WATER SYSTEM

PWA Engineers Approve Low Bids On Pumping Plant, Reservoir, Pipe Lines

Contracts for the construction of three important units in the city's new water works plant were awarded Thursday evening by the Torrance city council, following receipt of final approval of the low bids by engineers of the Public Works Administration.

Construction of the pumping plant, Unit B, was awarded to Hoagland Engineering Company, who offered a bid of \$34,970, the job to be completed in 60 days.

Unit C, construction of the low storage tank, was awarded to Pittsburgh-Des Moines Company, on their bid of \$21,990 for a riveted tank, to be completed in 45 days.

Unit D, construction of the distributing system, was awarded to Fred Weber, at \$41,602, plus an additional \$7,984 for certain extensions. The time limit on this job is 80 days.

BUILDING BIDS RUN SOMEWHAT OVER ESTIMATE

CITY OFFICIALS SURPRISED AT HIGH COST OF BUILDINGS

May Have to Eliminate Jail, Garages and Pavement to Bring Costs Within Funds Available For Projects

Bids for the construction of the new city hall, municipal auditorium and public library buildings were opened by the Torrance city council Thursday evening. The cost of three buildings as submitted by six general contracting firms ran considerably higher than the estimates of Walker & Eisen, architects.

Total of the low bids for the three buildings was \$124,567, which was subject to a reduction of \$14,681 if the jail, garages and pavement in rear of the city hall are omitted, leaving a balance of \$109,886. The estimate of the architects, which was made before the jail, garages and pavement were contemplated, was \$100,256.

This unexpected increase in construction costs, coupled with the fact that the purchase price of land desired for the auditorium and library runs considerably more than the \$10,500 allocated for land acquisition is causing city officials no little worry. It is apparent that if the total cost of the three buildings is to be kept within the total of the \$85,000 bond issue plus the \$54,595 federal grant, considerable paring will have to be done. In fact, it may be necessary to eliminate the jail, garages and paving, which items were added after the original estimates of the architects were made.

Low Bidders
 W. W. Petley & C. Metcham, contractors of Santa Monica, were low bidders on the auditorium with a bid of \$49,300 and also on the city hall and jail with a bid of \$52,000. R. J. Daum, of Los Angeles, was low with a bid of \$23,267 on the library. Mr. Daum has the contract for remodeling the Torrance elementary school. Details of the six bids submitted follows:

AUDITORIUM
 R. J. Daum, Los Angeles, \$50,386.
 Duff & Vandenhooen Co., Long Beach, \$53,616.
 Monolith Construction Co., Los Angeles, \$56,222.
 Ellis Construction Co., Los Angeles, \$53,300.
 W. W. Petley & C. Metcham, Santa Monica, \$49,300.
 Carlo Bongiovanni, Los Angeles, \$54,125.

LIBRARY
 R. J. Daum, Los Angeles, \$23,267.
 Duff & Vandenhooen Co., Long Beach, \$27,461.
 Monolith Construction Co., Los Angeles, \$27,111.
 Ellis Construction Co., Los Angeles, \$27,700.
 W. W. Petley & C. Metcham, Santa Monica, \$23,500.
 Carlo Bongiovanni, Los Angeles, \$26,220.

CITY HALL, JAIL, GARAGES
 R. J. Daum, Los Angeles, \$56,110.
 Deduct \$13,000 if jail is omitted, and \$3,110 if garages and paving omitted.
 Duff & Vandenhooen Co., Long Beach, \$53,883.
 Deduct \$10,621 if jail is omitted, and \$3,437 if garages and paving omitted.
 Monolith Construction Co., Los Angeles, \$60,111.
 Deduct \$18,000 if jail is omitted, and \$5,100 if garages and paving omitted.
 Ellis Construction Co., Los Angeles, \$57,600.
 Deduct \$10,790 if jail is omitted and \$3,300 if garages and paving omitted.
 W. W. Petley & C. Metcham, Santa Monica, \$52,000.
 Deduct \$11,171 if jail is omitted and \$3,510 if garages and paving omitted.
 Carlo Bongiovanni, Los Angeles, \$62,561.
 Deduct \$13,864 if jail is omitted and \$5,097 if garages and paving omitted.

All bids were referred to City Engineer F. R. Leonard and Walker & Eisen, consulting engineers, for checking, with the request that they present their recommendations at the next regular meeting of the council on Tuesday, November 26, at 7:45 p. m.



FOOD STORES OPEN UNTIL 8 P. M. WED.

Food markets in Torrance will remain open until 8 o'clock Wednesday evening in order to accommodate shoppers in purchasing supplies for Thanksgiving Day. Business houses in this city will be closed all day Thursday. By mutual agreement among downtown druggists the Torrance Pharmacy will remain open all day Thanksgiving.

Dale Riley Heads Recreation Dept.

Dale Riley will succeed C. E. McNew as head of the Recreation department in the City of Torrance, according to an announcement made yesterday. Mr. Riley will take over his duties on Friday, November 29. All recreational projects will now be under his direction, as the new city appointee. Headquarters for the Recreation department for the present will be at the city park. The quarters at 1335 Post avenue are being prepared for the WPA sewing unit, and as yet the city has not secured a building for the recreation department.