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Torrance Herald

TWENTY-SECOND YEAR—NO. 32

SECTION A

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1936

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COMBINED TAX RATE BOOSTED 86c TO 91c OVER PREVIOUS YEAR

Major Increases Due to School Levy and Other Rates Set By "Outside" Governing Authorities

While preliminary estimates of the combined tax rate against Torrance city property indicate an increase of 86 cents to 91 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, it is noted that aside from the 11 cents civic buildings bond levy, all the additional rate increases are due to actions of tax levying authorities OUTSIDE the city of Torrance.

The general tax rate for the city of Torrance as adopted by the city council Tuesday evening remains the same as last year, 80 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. Other items which remain unchanged are: Parks, Music and Advertising, 10 cents; and Public Library Fund, six cents. The levy for street improvement bonds in Torrance Tax District No. 1 (old town) is reduced one cent this year to four cents.

None of the outside governing bodies which levy taxes against Torrance property have as yet officially set their rates, but fairly accurate estimates of these rates are included in the following table:

Table with 3 columns: Category, Last Year, This Year. Rows include TORRANCE: General Fund, Parks, Music and Advertising, Public Library, Street Improvement Bonds, Civic Building Bonds, County, Los Angeles City School District, Metropolitan Water District, County Sanitation District No. 5, County Flood Control.

*Estimates. Official Rate Not Yet Set. †Not Assessed Against Annexed Territory.

Steel Workers get extra pay For Overtime

An overtime wage rate of time-and-one-half for employees who work beyond the eight-hour day, will become effective August 1, it was announced this week by officials of the Columbia Steel Company.

The new overtime schedule applies to all subsidiary companies of the United States Steel Corporation. The statement from the corporation's New York offices follows: "After conferences with employee representatives a uniform arrangement for the payment of overtime effective August 1, 1936, has been approved by the U. S. Steel Corporation and its subsidiary companies."

"The schedule covers overtime payment for hourly, piece work or tonnage employees. The regular schedule of daily and weekly hours is established on a basis not to exceed eight hours a day or more than six regular turns without at least a 24-hour intermission, thus providing for one day of rest in seven. Schedule Released

"When employees are requested by the company to work beyond the above schedule, the following basis of payment for overtime shall apply: daily overtime, time and one-half will be paid for time worked in excess of eight hours per day. This provision will only apply when the overtime in any one day exceeds 16 minutes. Time and one-half will be paid for time worked in excess of the regular six-day or six-turn working schedule, providing the employee has worked six consecutive days or turns."

ONTARIO VISITOR Kenneth Zeller, of Ontario, is visiting this week at the home of his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bowen, 1327 Cota avenue.

MONTREAL VISITOR Visiting with Mr. and Mrs. J. Stack at their home, 1441 Carson street, for a time, is Mrs. G. Mistz, of Montreal.

MEDALS are on display AT LEVY'S

Medals won by Louis Zamperini, the Torrance Tornado, who is now competing in the Olympic Games at Berlin, Germany, are on display in the show windows at the Sam Levy Department Store. The medals represent Louie's winnings of the past four years, since he was a sophomore in high school. The display also includes Louie's famous black suit, with the word Torrance in large white letters, his running shoes, worn in his great race at New York when he defeated the famous Don Lash of Indiana, pictures of the boy in various poses, and the trophy cup given him by the Kiwanis Club when he broke the world's interscholastic mile record in 1934.

The only things missing are the two watches he won in A.A.U. meets and the duffle bag given as second place prize at Compton, which he has probably taken with him to Germany.

Louie's shoes show the effects of the terrific heat in New York and the wearing qualities of the cinder track he ran on at Randall's Field. They are badly worn and charred and the temper has been taken out of the spikes. The mercury in the thermometer stood at 108 on July 12 in New York when Louie surprised everybody but his friends in Torrance by out-sprinting the great Indiana distance man who had been touted as easy winner, but who had to be content with the judges' decision of a tie.

Fake Advertising Solicitors Busy

Unauthorized persons are soliciting advertising for a police magazine, says Capt. Gregg of the Vermont avenue sub-station No. 3. The magazine does not exist and any contributions are wasted so far as the advertiser is concerned. The solicitors make their story good by giving the names of police and sheriff's officers as references. Capt. Gregg one of those whose name is being used without his knowledge or consent, advises merchants to contact their local police departments before donating. The approach is usually made by telephone, and if a donation is promised a man calls around to collect.

Burglars loot office at Greenhouse

Two former employes, who checked out of their hotel in Los Angeles on the night of the raid on the Wright Greenhouse, 1803 W. 190th street, are under suspicion of burglary and grand theft, committed last Monday night. The burglars exhibited a nice variety of taste in their selections and made off with a Buick coupe, the property of L. V. McCoulsky, greenhouse employe, a western saddle, radio, electric motor and a quantity of choice McCallum whiskey.

William Zeharraz, an ex-pugilist known as Kid Vance of Detroit, and Samuel Spraulding, are under suspicion in the affair. The men had been employed at the greenhouse for a short time but were recently discharged and have been living at the Middleton hotel, Los Angeles. It was learned that the men checked out of the hotel on Monday night. The burglary was committed some time after 11 o'clock on the same night.

Entrance to the office at the greenhouse was made by prying off a screen with a hatchet taken from a tool house, which indicated that the crime had been committed by some one who was familiar with the premises.

Description of the men has been broadcast to all peace officers in the state, and it is believed they will shortly be taken into custody.

Mrs. Mastanich Passes Away

Private funeral services were conducted this morning at 10 o'clock at the Lince Funeral Parlors, Watts, for Mrs. Cora Mastanich, 64, who passed away suddenly Monday evening. She had been ill with a chronic ailment for a long time, and developed a heart condition which caused her death.

Mrs. Mastanich was born in Quincy, Illinois, but came to California more than 50 years ago. She had resided for 30 years in Watts, and moved to Torrance about a year ago, where she resided at 2504 Carson street.

She leaves her husband, Blas Mastanich, one daughter, Mrs. Lucille Lewellen, both of Torrance, and two sons, John Woods of Watts, and Paul Mastanich of Lynwood, also four sisters, Mrs. Fred Hink, San Francisco, Mrs. Doll Benjamin, Merced, Mrs. Marian Crum, Bakersfield, Mrs. Rose DeVries, San Pedro, and one brother, Scott Hughes, of Merced. Mrs. Crum and Mrs. Benjamin were here to attend the last rites.

Services were conducted by Rev. Curren of the Watts Episcopal church.

Interment was made at Inglewood Park cemetery.

South Torrance Offered Refund

Property owners in South Torrance, who were subjected to a double assessment for lighting purposes during the fiscal year 1933-34, are offered an opportunity to secure a refund this week by action of the Torrance city council. Prior to annexation to Torrance this district was a part of the Lomita county lighting district, and the first year after the territory annexed to Torrance property owners were assessed by the county as well as by the city for lights.

By arrangement with county officials, property owners may file claims for the amounts paid to the city of Torrance, which in turn will be deducted from the municipal funds collected by the county. As the time for filing such claims is limited, immediate action is urged. Those interested in securing such refunds should apply at once to the city clerk at the Torrance city hall.

Important Highways Thru City Scheduled for Early Completion

Completion of the Sepulveda boulevard, Olympic boulevard and State street projects is provided for jointly by the city of Los Angeles and the state, out of the quarter-cent gasoline tax fund for 1936-37, it was disclosed today by the Los Angeles city engineer's office. Total of the quarter-cent projects was given as \$3,400,000.

To Investigate Sepulveda Blvd.

Improvement of Sepulveda boulevard east of Hawthorne boulevard through the city of



Supervisor Leland M. Ford

Torrance will receive the personal attention of Supervisor Leland M. Ford and County Road Commissioner George Jones, both of whom have informed City Engineer Leonard that they will visit Torrance tomorrow morning to inspect the long-delayed project.

The right-of-way for the Torrance link in this important highway was secured a long time ago, and local city officials and property owners are anxious to get the paving laid. Cost of the improvement, if approved, will be paid from gasoline tax funds.

News Reel of Zamperini Race Now On View

Torrance Theatre Will Show New York Olympic Try-outs This Week

Followers of Louis Zamperini will have a chance to see him in action in the Olympic try-outs at New York tonight, Friday and Saturday, through the news reel secured by Manager DeWitt B. Van Derlip, which will be shown in connection with the feature program at the Torrance theatre on these three nights.

The film shows all the important events of the meet, and included is the showing of the last 100 yards of the 5000-meter run when the Torrance boy staged his great sensational finish to out-sprint Don Lash of Indiana.

Manager Van Derlip was given a preview of the film before ordering it for his theatre and says it gives a fine view of Louie and his rival in their dash for the tape.

Incidentally, when Louie gets back to Torrance, he has a year's free admission to the Torrance theatre waiting for him. Before he left for the east, Manager Van Derlip told Louie that if he made the Olympic team he would give him a free pass to the theatre for himself and his lady friend, good for a year. Louie made good and Manager Van Derlip, who is a warm admirer of the young athlete, says he will be proud to make good his end of the bargain.

NEW SAND BUNKER BUILT IN WALTERIA

A building permit for \$1,500 for the construction of a sand bunker on Ocean boulevard, Walteria, was issued this week to E. W. French, of Hawthorne. A reinforced concrete building for washing sand will be erected.

Allure of watery death Fades

After using up a sheet of fine note paper to write a farewell epistle to the world, in which he declared his intention of swimming out into the ocean as far as he could and letting the results be what they would, Malcolm Clinton Brown, of Fresno, changed his mind and walked in a bathing suit from Rocky Point to the police station in Hermosa Beach and gave himself up Monday. Brown wrote an elaborate account of his doings and thoughts on contemplating self destruction, but told officers that somebody had talked him out of his project.

Brown's clothes and a leather box of effects were found on the beach at Rocky Point by Darrell Ellwood and Max L. Hines, Hermosa Beach youths who were looking for crabs along the shore. On their return to the spot four hours later the clothes were still lying on the beach and the boys notified police.

Brown gave the officers a surprise later when he walked into the police station clad in his swimming suit. He is being held pending advices from Fresno.

Howell Buys Avocado Ranch

W. J. Howell, former assistant postmaster, who was placed on the retired list last year after many years of service has sold his home at 1317 Encarnacion avenue, and has purchased an avocado ranch at Carlsbad. Mr. and Mrs. Howell left last week for their new home and business.

Mr. Howell, although he has reached the retirement age, is still active and ambitious and found the idleness of enforced vacation very trying. He expects to devote all his time to his new job as a rancher.

Solicitors Must Have Credentials

Torrance merchants and others who may be solicited for funds for the Townsend Club, are advised by officials of the local organization not to contribute unless the solicitor can show credentials bearing their names.

Officers of the local club are Leslie T. Armstrong, president; Francis Clark, vice president; Lura Davis, secretary; and Beth Paige, treasurer. Unless the solicitor can show a credential signed by one or more of these officers, their requests for funds or aid should be disregarded.

Children On Bike Hit Radio Car

Richard Marcum, age 9, residing at 1673 W. 258th street, was entertaining his cousin Margaret Estes, 10, of El Monte, recently by giving her a ride on his bicycle. Richard pedaled the machine out of an alley on to the state highway near his home in time to collide with radio car No. 233, occupied by Deputy Sheriffs Storlie and Dawson of the Vermont sub-station No. 3, with Storlie driving. The car was proceeding very slowly.

Marjorie received a cut on her hip and one tooth was broken off. Richard was unhurt. The deputies took the children to Marcum's home and saw to their having medical attendance.

Mass Meeting of Townsend Clubs

Members of the Townsend Clubs of the 17th Congressional district will hold a mass meeting at the Wilmington Bowl, Sunday afternoon, Aug. 9, at 2:30 o'clock. Prominent national speakers are expected to be present and a musical entertainment will be given. The public is invited.

HARMONY RESTORED AS HOGS DEPART FROM M'DONALD TRACT

Residents Agree to Change Name of District to "North Torrance" As Evidence of Better Feeling Toward City

"All was forgiven and they lived happily ever afterward,"—so runs the lines in the story book. But at Tuesday evening's city council meeting the story with its happy ending was enacted in real life, the McDonald Tract residents and member of the Torrance city council playing the leading roles.

Armed with long petitions, the McDonald Tract folks came to the council meeting prepared to voice vehement protests against the establishment of a hog ranch in the midst of their homes and school. But before they had an opportunity to express their righteous indignation, Mayor Wm. H. Stanger made a brief announcement which instantly transformed their harsh thoughts to words of praise. Stern faces and tight lips gave way to broad smiles and hearty handclaps, as the mayor stated, "I want to assure the people of the McDonald Tract that the hog ranch will be moved. The ranch owners have been very nice and have agreed to move."

When the applause died down, P. W. Giddings, spokesman of the delegation, thanked the members of the city council for their co-operation in solving the problem. "Your action tonight will go a long way toward creating a better feeling between McDonald Tract residents and the rest of Torrance," said Mr. Giddings. "We all appreciate the beauty of Torrance and want to be a part and parcel of the city. Now that the new road to the McDonald Tract is about to be opened, we will have an avenue of free intercourse which I am sure will be of benefit to Torrance merchants," added Mr. Giddings.

Mayor Stanger asked that residents of the tract bring their problems to the council in the future, stating that the city officials are always glad to cooperate and give any assistance possible. But you must remember, said the mayor, that the members of this council are employed elsewhere and do not have time to get around, so that unless you tell us your desires we may not learn of them. John Salm, local manufacturer and resident of the McDonald Tract, stated that he was pleased with the council's action, and thankful for the cooperation which the outlying districts receive.

"North Torrance" "Let's drop the McDonald Tract name and call it North Torrance," suggested Councilman W. H. Tolson, which was followed by hearty applause from the audience. And it was generally agreed hereafter to refer to that portion of the city lying north of 190th street as "North Torrance."

The amicable settlement of the hog ranch controversy which has been troubling the city council for over a month was reached following a long conference Tuesday afternoon between the ranch operators and members of the city council. Much credit should be given the ranch owners, said Mayor Stanger, for their agreement to stand a substantial loss in the removal of their ranch.

Western Investment Company of Los Angeles this week took out a \$5,000 building permit for the creation of an oil rig on the former Frerger property on Torrance boulevard, east of Hawthorne boulevard. Lumber, boilers and other drilling equipment are already on the property.

Judge Collamar A. Bridge, sitting by request for Judge Frank R. Carrell of the Inglewood township justice court at Gardena, held Leonard R. Pyle, Hermosa Hotel, to the superior court to answer to charges of driving while under the influence of liquor. Pyle was involved in an automobile accident in which one woman was injured last week. Two women companions of Pyle were also arraigned on charges of being drunk.

San Diego will be host to the third annual "conclave of the Loyalty Order of Moose, meeting in convention Aug. 6-9. Over 4,000 members of the lodges of California are expected to take part in the parade of uniformed bodies, and many entertainments are planned for the visiting delegations. The Women of the Moose will hold their annual state meeting at the same time.

Indicative of further oil development in North Torrance, the Texas Company was granted permission by the Torrance city council Tuesday to drill eight test holes along Arlington avenue between Redondo Beach boulevard and 190th street. Some time ago the Shell Company also made an extensive survey of possible oil-bearing sands adjacent to Torrance. As the result of this survey the Shell Company leased large tracts of land for drilling purposes.

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THANKS FOR EVERYTHING

Catholic Church of the Nativity wishes to thank the Torrance merchants, Torrance city council, Torrance theatre and the public at large for their help in making the second annual barbecue and picnic, which was held in the city park Sunday, such a successful affair.

We believe all those attending had an enjoyable time and will look forward to another such event next year.

REV. THOMAS KENNEDY.