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TWENTY-THIRD YEAR—No. 4 SECTION A

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1937

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STREET NAMES STUDIED BY CITY COUNCIL

Cypress and Cedar Become Crenshaw; Coast Road Unity Is Sought

Street naming came in for considerable discussion at Tuesday night's city council meeting. The only definite action taken was to change, by resolution, the names of Cypress and Cedar avenues to Crenshaw boulevard.

A letter from the Street Naming committee of the Association of City Planners urged the council to approve the name of Pacific Coast highway for what is now variously known as Roosevelt, Wilmington-Redondo road, Route 60, Highway 101 and State street.

Divided at Ventura During the discussion, City Engineer Frank R. Leonard reported that there were several meetings held two or three years ago on this name-change and at that time, interested cities, organizations and individuals south of Ventura were agreed on Pacific Coast, while those north of Ventura wanted the sea-bordered road named Roosevelt.

A suggestion from Councilman Tom McGuire to call the highway Roosevelt Pacific Coast was held to be "too long" by the engineer, who said Pacific Coast would be easier to remember and "would look better on the maps." Long Beach favors Pacific Coast, he told Councilman William H. Tolson.

No Sepulveda Action The latter suggested turning the matter over to Engineer Leonard for investigation of what other adjoining cities along the road like in the way of names and then report back to the council. This will be done.

Leonard continued the nomenclature discussion when he brought up the subject of Sepulveda boulevard, which is known as Camino Real in one portion of the city and Willow street in Long Beach. The council did not offer to act on a uniform name for this street at this time.

STEEL WORKERS' CREDIT UNION STATE CHARTERED Employees of the Columbia Steel plant have obtained a state charter to operate a credit union, membership being limited to workers at the plant here.

The purpose of this credit union is to provide a means by which its members can save and borrow money. The enthusiasm expressed by the workers indicates it will be a successful enterprise, officers state.

NEXT COUNCIL SESSION The next regular meeting of the city council will be held Tuesday night, Feb. 9, when bids are to be opened on the sidewalk and curb improvements for Narbonne avenue.

There's a Reason

Why Building Permits Fail to Top January 1936 Record

When the building permit record book kept by City Engineer Frank R. Leonard gave evidence today of not following the customary habit of building permit records—topping the amount of construction for the same time last year—he looked back into the date for January, 1936, to see what was wrong.

His review showed that it would have taken another set of new civic buildings this month to equal or pass the record January total of last year. It was in that month that the city took out building permits totaling \$103,290 for the city hall and police station (\$41,569), civic auditorium (\$38,721) and public library (\$23,000).

Four Derricks Rising With but two more days to go, new building in Torrance this month will fall far short

School Semester Closing With Graduation, Promotion Events

Today and tomorrow are red-letter days on school calendars. For high school seniors they mean graduation; for junior high students they represent entry to the senior classes, for elementary school youngsters they are "promotion" days to higher grades.

TORRANCE HIGH school will graduate 23 seniors tonight at 8 o'clock during a program featuring student speakers at the civic auditorium. Admission is by card only.

TORRANCE ELEMENTARY school is to promote 35 pupils into junior high school at 1 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. The program will be held in the school auditorium and all parents and friends are invited to attend.

FERN AVENUE school promoted 16 pupils into junior high this afternoon during a program that featured the presentation of a playlet.

NARBONNE HIGH school graduates 48 seniors Friday night at 8 o'clock in the school auditorium. Miss Evaline Dowling, who is in charge of curriculum for this district, will be the speaker.

LOMITA ELEMENTARY school is promoting 26 pupils Friday morning at 10 o'clock during a program in the kindergarten room. A feature of this entertainment will be the staging of an original playlet, "The Coming of Columbus" with "radio sound effects" planned and presented by the A-B boys.

ORANGE STREET school in Lomita will send 30 pupils to junior high next week. The advancement program will be held tomorrow afternoon at 1 o'clock. A spaghetti luncheon was given for the A-B class yesterday afternoon. Names of the pupils leaving this institution will be found on another page of today's edition.

WALTERIA ELEMENTARY school will send four pupils to Narbonne junior high following the city of Los Angeles taken during the cold wave that brought death and millions of dollars' crop damage to the Far West.

Commander Pat Boyle of Bert S. Crossland Post, American Legion, is presenting that organization's medals to the outstanding boy and girl students at the Junior high and Elementary school advancement programs here and at the Orange street school in Lomita.

Arrange Special Charter Election

The city council completed its duties Tuesday night in regard to the special municipal charter election, March 16, when it adopted a resolution fixing four consolidated voting precincts and appointing four election officials to man each voting center. The officials will be paid \$5 each and the polls will be open from 6 a. m. to 7 p. m.

THIS GRADUATION PROGRAM

The commencement program honoring the winter class of 1937 graduates of Torrance high school at the Civic Auditorium tonight at 8 o'clock will be: Processional—"Recessional" by deKoven. Invocation by local pastor. Oration—"The Value of Amateur Radio" by Wayne Hilton. Selection—"Indian Love Call" (Friml) by Florence Buckman, Bette Elliot, Hazel Foster, Mary Jane Smith and Dorothy Shaw, with Laura May Hyde at the piano.

Winter Scene



Unusual as it may seem, this is a scene in Los Angeles taken during the cold wave that brought death and millions of dollars' crop damage to the Far West.

DEATH TRAP CURVE TO BE STRAIGHTENED

With the removal of telephone poles at the intersection of West 190th street and Western avenue where Torrance joins the city of Los Angeles, one more death trap has been eliminated in the Harbor district.

The last fatality occurred there as 1937 was being welcomed by whistle blasts. A man and a woman were almost instantly killed when their car failed to negotiate the curve and bounded straight ahead into the guy wire of the first telephone pole.

Several months ago the city of Torrance started machinery in motion to effect the improvement but the year-end wreck was to take its toll before the work was actually begun.

NEED MORE FUNDS TO REMOVE JOG

Appropriation of the additional \$58 needed to cover the cost of removing the jog in Western avenue at 190th street was pending before the Los Angeles city council this week. The appropriation was recommended by the board of public works in its report to the council on the low bid that the city of Torrance obtained some time ago.

The low bid was \$636.50, the city was advised, which was \$86 more than the amount available. Los Angeles city had previously appropriated only \$550 for the work, from the quarter-cent gasoline tax fund.

MRS. MOWRY PASSES AWAY

Church Worker Summoned After Long Illness

A lingering illness of three months came to a close for one of the most active church members and clubwomen in Torrance yesterday afternoon when Mrs. Clara French Mowry, wife of Guy L. Mowry, veteran high school chemistry instructor, passed away at her home, 2112 Carson street.

Mrs. Mowry's death, while not wholly unexpected, came as a distinct blow to many of her friends in the city where she had made her works noteworthy during the 16 years of her residence here. She was born in Sherwood, Mich., and came to Long Beach in 1898. In 1913 she was married there and in 1921 the family moved here where her husband became principal of the Torrance evening high school several years ago.

Keenly interested in church work, Mrs. Mowry divided her interests between the Methodist denomination, club activities and rearing her family of two sons and a daughter. For seven years she was president of the Long Beach District Federated Woman's Aid Society, and as such served on the conference executive board. She was also president of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of the local church for two years and a member of the Woman's Club here.

Besides her devoted husband, Mrs. Mowry is survived by her children, Francis, who works at the Columbia Steel plant; Gertrude, a student at Whittier College, and Robert, who attends high school. She also has a sister, Mrs. Anna Baad, who lives in Colon, Mich.

The funeral service will be held Saturday afternoon, 2 o'clock, at the First Methodist church. Rev. B. C. Brewster, local pastor, will be assisted in officiating by Rev. W. A. Betts of El Segundo and two former members of the church.

Free Concert at Aud Friday Nite

Financial backing to the extent of \$100 from city funds makes the first free concert of the Torrance Grand Opera and Symphony Society tomorrow (Friday) night possible at the civic auditorium.

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Beginning at 8 o'clock, the orchestra will present an attractive concert program including Beethoven's First Symphony complete, Prometheus Overture and Atlantis, the Lost Continent, a four-part suite by Safranek. A well-known soloist, it is announced, and a short comedy skit will be presented during the second half of the program.

Torrance Second In County With Tax Payments

Local First Half Returns Only Exceeded By El Segundo

Torrance taxpayers paid in 71.08 percent of this city's total tax bill in payments made with first half current tax collections, it was disclosed today by the county auditor's office. The percentage of general county taxes collected was 58.07 in virtually every city and special district in the county, despite the harbor strike, that has "slowed down" business in that district, and affected certain lines of manufacturing by stopping the movement of goods.

El Segundo, where the Standard Oil company has a large investment, led all 44 cities of the county with 81.34 percent of the city's total tax bill paid by Dec. 5.

Other Percentages Torrance, which also has large manufacturing interests, was a close second with its 71.08 percent. Vernon, where large oil refineries also are located, boasted 70.36 percent in its first half payments.

Los Angeles city, with seven-twelfths or more of the county's total population, showed municipal collections amounting to 56.61 percent. Long Beach, second city, collects its own taxes. The Metropolitan Water district collections from 10 member cities (including Torrance) in the county amounting to 57.50 percent of the total levied.

Percentage collections for some of the other cities of the county taken in a cross section were shown to be as follows: Claremont, 63.13; Covina, 64.51; Huntington Park, 61.27; La Verne, 62.58; Maywood, 53.52; Montebello, 50.53; Pomona, 63.12; San Fernando, 58.48; San Gabriel, 52.32; Santa Monica, 57.85; Signal Hill, 59.83; South Gate, 54.25; South Pasadena, 59.10; West Covina, 61.16.

Steel Play Cast is Revealing Talent

Announcement was made today by Director Harry Showalter of the stellar cast he is rehearsing for the Columbia Steel workers' four-act comedy-drama, "The Harum Scaram," that will be presented two nights, Feb. 5 and 6, at the civic auditorium. At the same time, Showalter revealed that he is the author of the production and one of the characters—two factors which he says "are not the least bit important—so forget 'em."

In addition to the play, a laugh-provoking drama dealing with backwoods folk who know nothing of city life but who are treated to an abrupt experience with sophistication, there will be concert numbers by an orchestra, and a "twang band" will provide the music for free dancing following each night's stage presentation. The advance ticket sale indicates a sell-out audience both nights.

Here is the cast: Richard Benton of the Columbia electric plant.

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Flood Victims Find Refuge DONATIONS BEING RECEIVED HERE



All America is giving generously to the Red Cross fund for Mississippi valley flood relief of which this typical family (shown huddled in a box-car after the raging waters had destroyed their home this week in Dell, Ark.) is an example.

Red Cross Needs Your Help! TORRANCE FLOOD QUOTA IS \$200

Worse than the Mississippi flood of 1926, worse than the eastern floods of last year, the raging rivers of the Ohio and Mississippi are sweeping over cities and counties, rendering one-half million persons homeless and destitute.

This word has flashed to all chapters and branches of the American Red Cross today by Cary T. Grayson, national chairman, as he asked chapters to double their original quotas. "In addition to meeting the emergency needs of housing, food and warm clothing, the Red Cross is facing the terrible fear of epidemic," the telegram read. "Red Cross nurses are busy combating the spread of disease, and hundreds of trained disaster workers are bringing comfort and rescue to the people of the inundated states."

CITY SURVEY—JOB PADDOCK, 90, SUCCUMBS

WPA Crew to Map Under-Ground Facilities

Next Wednesday a "white collar" WPA project employing nine men for 10 months will start in this city. The workers will be known as "technical assistants" to the city engineer and will make a complete survey of underground facilities in Torrance.

Headquarters for the work will be in the city hall, it is understood, and the survey will include the preparation of maps from the workers' findings in regard to gas, light, water and sewer lines which weave subterranean patterns.

The WPA men will also make a "center line" survey to determine the exact location of the city from existing bench marks, a work that is being done in a number of other Los Angeles county cities. The total cost of the project, according to WPA officials, is \$8,370, of which the federal government is advancing \$6,945 and the city is providing the balance.

Steel Super Leaves for Eastern Trip

E. M. Barber, general superintendent of the Columbia Steel plant, left Tuesday night for a five-weeks' business trip that will take him to most of the important eastern cities. His first stop was San Francisco and a call at the Columbia plant at Pittsburg. He will return by way of Birmingham, Ala. Barber is to make an inspection of industrial plants in the east.

COUNCILMAN ILL

Councilman James Hitchock was absent from council meeting Tuesday night being confined at his home from influenza.

INTER-CITY FDR BALL SATURDAY

Torrance and Gardena Folk to Hold Festivities At Riviera Clubhouse

As final arrangements for the President's Birthday ball at the Hollywood Riviera clubhouse Saturday night were being made here today, all indications pointed to a record-breaking attendance of Torrance and Gardena folk who will dance so that some crippled boys and girls in this area may be removed from the clutches of infantile paralysis.

And we intend to see that all who attend will enjoy the evening's festivities, whether they dance, play cards or just watch the dancers and enjoy the music," she promised. The dancing will begin at 9 o'clock in the spacious Riviera ball-room.

Those who have not purchased their tickets, which are selling for \$1 per couple, may obtain them at the clubhouse door on the night of the fourth annual dance. There will be a door prize and tables arranged for card games and many residents of Torrance and Gardena have consented to act as patrons and patronesses of the function.

70 Cents Remain Here More than 6,000 parties are in prospect for the nationwide celebration of the President's birthday Saturday night, Colonel Henry L. Doherty, chairman of the national committee for the fourth time, said today as final plans for this year's drive against infantile paralysis were drawn up.

The organization of parties of all sorts and descriptions from the country dances in the Virginia mountains to the shining propriety of the social event at the Waldorf in New York, is so much further advanced this year, the national committee hopes for a much larger contribution to the anti-paralysis war chest. During the past three years more than \$3,000,000 has been collected thru the medium of the birthday ball.

As last year, the funds collected will be divided in the proportion of 70 and 30 percent. The larger percent going toward the rehabilitation of victims of infantile paralysis in the communities where the parties are held. Thirty percent will be presented to President Roosevelt to be turned over to the Warm Springs Foundation for the national battle against poliomyelitis.

The response of this year to the proposals of the national committee was particularly gratifying because it was universal, Colonel Doherty said. He pointed out that leaders in politics, finance, labor and press, radio and movies and the stage, in fact in every walk of life and branch of endeavor throughout the country had given freely of their time and talents towards

Autopsy Halts Probe

Bay City Young Woman's Death Here Ends Tragic Circumstances

Within a few days the last chapter in the tragic life of Eva Margaret Crooks of San Francisco will be written at a cemetery plot. The climax of that 21-year-old life occurred within the span of about 24 hours here last week when she appeared in a dying condition at a local doctor's office and a few hours later passed away at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital.

Woven into last few harrowing episodes covering a period of some six or eight weeks were hunger, assistance from a Chinese, medical treatment by some Los Angeles Caucasian and Oriental physicians which was, to say the least, questionable, and a police investigation that ended only when an autopsy was made.

The body of Mrs. Crooks was taken to San Francisco yesterday from Stone and Myers' mortuary by a heart-broken mother who last saw her daughter alive one day nearly two months ago when she saw the young woman leave to visit friends in Oakland.

Tragedy stalked Eva Crooks last May or June when Verd L. Crooks, sailor-husband and father of her 10-month-old daughter, allegedly deserted the navy and was subsequently arrested and sent to Mare Island Navy Yard prison.