

COUNCIL READS PROPOSED RETAIL SALES TAX MEASURE; PASSAGE POSSIBLE OCT. 22

Brought to first reading at Tuesday night's meeting of the Torrance City Council was a measure providing for imposition of a city retail sales tax.

The measure, calling for a levy of 1/2 of one per cent on retail transactions began and completed within the city, was passed after an ordinance recently adopted by the City of Huntington Park, with some amendments taken from the Los Angeles sales tax law.

If passed, the impost, will be effective for one year only, beginning December 1.

Under the proposal, every retailer wishing to do business here must apply to the city clerk for a license, paying a fee of \$1 for each place of business. He is then required to collect from all customers "the half per cent levy, which he must turn over to the city quarterly."

This provision is not optional, the measure providing that "it is unlawful for any retailer to advertise or hold out or state to the public or to any customer directly or indirectly, that the tax or any part thereof will be assumed or absorbed by the retailer or that it will not be added to the selling price of the property sold, or that, if added, it or any part thereof will be refunded."

Several exemptions, in addition to those on food and other necessities included in the state law, have been written into the Torrance statute. Most are aimed at waiving the requirements for manufacturers and other large industries here.

In addition to the stipulation that the measure applies only to tangible personal property sold at retail, the measure specifically exempts:

1. Sales made to or by the State of California or any agency thereof.
 2. Sales of property shipped to a point outside this city pursuant to the contract of sale by delivery by the retailer to such point. (This exempts retail sales by Torrance industries to purchasers outside of town.)
 3. Sales of property to be used in connection with the erection, construction, repair or alteration of either public works or buildings belonging to or being constructed by or for the United States government, State of California, or any agency, department, political subdivision, district or public or municipal corporation of the state.
 4. Sales made pursuant to contracts actually executed in good faith before Dec. 1.
 5. Sales of property shipped from outside to purchasers in the city, which before being put to any use within the city is transported outside for its principal consumption or use.
 6. Sales of property to operators of common carriers or waterborne vessels.
- Teeth of the proposed law are in the section on revocation of permit. This provides that "Whenever any person fails to comply with any of the provisions of this ordinance, the city may revoke the permit." (Continued on Page 8-A)

TORRANCE HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1914... THREE SECTIONS - 22 PAGES TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1946 6 CENTS

Man Arraigned Today On Wife Beating Charge

Joseph Sciacca, 27, 739 W. Carson st., was booked by deputy sheriffs Monday on wife beating charges after he assertedly slugged Mrs. Sciacca because she stopped to talk to a man (who was identified as a neighbor of the Sciaccas), while escorting her small daughter home from school.

The young wife displayed a black eye and cuts on her face when she summoned deputies to her home. The officers reported that Mrs. Sciacca revealed to them her husband had beaten her on numerous occasions, once breaking her arm and another time her nose.

He will appear for arraignment Thursday afternoon before Judge John Shidler in the Compton Justice Court, at which time he will be held in lieu of \$100 set and bail fixed.



EX-EX-GOBS... Saying their "I do's" as they are sworn back into the Navy (the reserve, that is) their former ratings are, left to right: Walter West, Larry Benton, Willard Barnett, Percy Bennett, Adrian Thornberry, Carmel Cook, Curtis Tolson and Karl Frisberg. Administering the oath are Lt. Comdr. L. C. Borden, CMO MM. C. Brown and CSM C. A. Darrow, recruiting officers. (Story on Page 1-B.) (Torrance Herald photo.)

Purchase Of Tract By Bates Steel Brings New Industry To Torrance

Purchase by Bates Expanded Steel Corporation of a 16-acre industrial tract at the corner of Arlington ave. and Dominguez st. from Pacific Electric Co., was announced this week by Edward S. Christiansen, president of the Chicago firm.

Arrangements for the transaction were completed following negotiations between Jack Campbell, western division manager of the Edw. S. Christiansen Co., and W. G. Knocke and D. E. Blaine Walker, executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, sponsored negotiations which bring an additional line to the city's well diversified industry.

Established in 1914, the Bates firm manufactures steel poles, towers, substations, signal bridges, flood light structures, floor joints and other light structural steel fabrications. Its light metal division fabricates aluminum and magnesium and those requirements for delivery west of the Mississippi will be manufactured at the Torrance plant.

One leading item of production in this division is light-weight magnesium dockboards which replace heavy steel platforms commonly used as bridges between loading docks and freight cars or trucks. Resulting from much pre-war planning and experimentation, these dockboards are strong and light, weighing one-third to one-fourth as much as similar steel boards.

Made entirely of magnesium in plain and non-skid raised pattern floor plate and reinforced with structural members, the boards are designed to stay securely in position while in use. Because of their extreme light weight, the danger of employee accidents from strain in handling is minimized and fatigue materially reduced.

Construction plans are being developed and it is expected that when all operations are started, the demand for labor will be in excess of several hundred men and women in both skilled and unskilled categories.

Burglars Enter Unlocked Home Here, Take \$70

Entering through an unlocked door early Monday morning, burglars ransacked the home of Mrs. Sam Ward and escaped with \$70 in cash, Torrance police report.

Mrs. Ward, who lives at 2247 W. 230th st., told officers that the looters found the money, which was contained in a bag, hidden beneath her bed mattress. An undetermined amount of pennies were left in the bag, she said, and only the \$70 in bills were stolen.

Carper Reports Positions Open In Kiwanis Band

Under the direction of Don Carper, the Torrance Kiwanis Club-sponsored Torrance Concert Band has been making rapid progress and soon will announce a series of free concerts for the entertainment of the people of this area.

Rehearsals have been held each Monday evening at the Men's Bible Class building, 1317 Cravens ave., but will change to the Civic auditorium next Tuesday evening for a more convenient time. Rehearsals will continue at the Civic auditorium until a permanent home for the band rehearsals is found for Tuesday evening. The time is 7:30.

Carper said yesterday: "We still have several positions open Membership in the band is open to any musician in the area. Sponsored by the Kiwanis club, there is no charge or cost to enter membership. It is strictly a civic enterprise for those who enjoy playing and hearing good music."

BUSINESS SECTION TO BE 'LIT UP' DURING HOLIDAYS

Downtown Torrance will be "all lit up" electrically speaking for the Christmas holidays this year.

This was made certain by a motion passed at Tuesday night's meeting of the City Council, providing for installation of colored lights in the business district.

In response to a letter urging that the city augment the program of merchants to decorate the city, a motion was unanimously passed that the city electricians make necessary arrangements with the Edison Co. for extra power, then see to it that city-owned decorative illumination be installed in time for the holidays.

NEW RESIDENT Mrs. C. C. Bohrer entertained as her weekend guest, Thomas Black of Chicago, who arrived recently to make his home in Southern California.

King-Lund Insurance Partnership Suit Involves Mayor, Councilman

Mayor J. Hugh Sherrey Jr., Councilman William H. Tolson and City Clerk A. H. Bartlett are among nearly a dozen Torrance people involved as witnesses in trial of a suit which began yesterday in Superior Court.

J. Stanley King, suing Russell Lund as an aftermath to dissolution April 30, 1946, of their insurance partnership, seeks \$5,000 damages and a permanent injunction prohibiting Lund from soliciting or accepting insurance business from clients of the Torrance General Insurance Agency as of April 30.

A temporary injunction to this effect was granted in July by Judge Henry M. Willis. This week's action, being tried before Judge William Palmer in Department 29 of Superior Court, seeks to make it permanent.

Brought out in King's complaint, and in opening testimony by Lund yesterday, are the following facts:

1. Lund had entered last year into partnership with King, under an agreement providing that he receive \$300 a month plus one third of the proceeds of the partnership, and that he could buy a one-third share in the business over a period of five years, with option to buy a half share thereafter.
 2. Lund, wishing to purchase a half in advance of the ten-year deadline, made an offer to purchase at a figure based on terms of the agreement, which proved unacceptable to King, whereupon Lund withdrew from the partnership.
 3. The complaint alleges that Lund, acting as agent for another insurance carrier, submitted the winning bid for insurance on Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, outbidding Pacific Indemnity Co., for which King was agent, and which had been handling the business. It charges that this successful bid was made after City Clerk Bartlett had received King's bid and allegedly disclosed its contents to Lund.
 4. Following loss of this business, King sought first a restraining order forbidding Lund's taking business from any of his clients; then the temporary injunction to the same effect; and now he seeks to have this made permanent. Suit also seeks \$5,000 damages to make up for business allegedly taken by Lund.
 5. On the witness stand yesterday Lund denied having written any insurance for clients of the partnership.
- King is represented in the suit by Attorney Charles Mitsch. (Continued on Page 8-A)

Sue Coburn Wins Title Of 'Queen' At Network Show

Every parent knows the wear and tear a baby can give its crib mattress, even a new one, in achieving the ripe old age of 7 months. And little Jerry Ernest Coburn is no exception.

So when his mother Sue, wife of Bob Coburn, 927 Arlington ave., was named Queen for a Day last week on the radio program of the same name, her wish for the day was a baby mattress with an inner spring.

In addition to the mattress and a certificate proclaiming her "Queen for the Day" (Oct. 9, 1946) Mrs. Coburn, or Queen Sue was presented or promised the following items:

"Queen Crown" pin; three dozen roses, Esme of Paris perfume, movie camera, shoes, a hat, a handbag, a pair of gloves, a suit, a blouse, radio, pearls, a compact, vacuum cleaner, Gladiron, a watch, Westmore cosmetics and a manicure set.

The queen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Lloyd of Blytheville, Ark., took a vacation trip to California with a cousin three years ago, then decided to take a job at National Supply Co., where she met her husband-to-be. Bob commutes daily to the Bible Institute in Los Angeles. He is studying for the ministry.

Silligo And Jones, Partners, Dissolve By Agreement

Announcement was made yesterday of the dissolution of partnership of Charles V. Jones and A. H. Silligo involving the firms of the Torrance Hardware Co. and the Torrance Lumber Co.

In a joint statement issued by the two former partners yesterday, they said: "Effective September 30 our partnership and mutual ownership of the Torrance Hardware Company and the Torrance Lumber Company was dissolved.

"This was done with the mutual consent and satisfaction of both of us, in order that each may devote his entire time in the business in which he individually is most interested.

"Therefore one partner (Charles Jones) has assumed complete control and ownership of the Torrance Lumber Company.

"We both thank all of our friends for their best wishes, and assure them of our appreciation of their continued cooperation and patronage of both firms."

It was also stated by both parties that there would be no change in the policy or personnel of either firm. Keith Jones, brother of Charles, continues his association with the Torrance Lumber Company.

MINERAL EXHIBIT The Long Beach Mineralogical Society will present its third annual exhibit Sunday at the Belmont Recreation center in Long Beach. Many mineral specimens and hand-made jewelry will be displayed. Doors open at 12 noon. Several local enthusiasts have entered gems and polished materials in the annual exhibit, it was announced.



KIWANIS PRESIDENT ELECT Ed Brown, business manager of the Herald, who was elected Monday night as next year's president of Torrance Kiwanis club. Installation takes place in January.

Kiwanians Elect Officers, View Film On Tires

Principal business of the Monday night meeting of the Torrance Kiwanis club at the Men's Bible class building was taken care of speedily, as election of officers was almost unanimous.

Elected for the coming year were Ed Brown, president; Dale Colville, first vice president; Hod Wood, second vice president and Stanley King, treasurer. Chosen for the seven posts on the board of directors were Jimmy Yellman, Oscar Ross, Bill Mullin, Vic McVicar, Keith Jones, Bob Haggard and Ray Rogers.

Spelling the unanimity, one "Kilroy" was there, receiving a lone vote for every office.

Ed Brown and R. J. Deininger, delegates to the California-Nevada Kiwanis club convention in Oakland over the weekend, reported on proceedings.

Entertainment program came in the form of an educational feature film. Furnished by the Firestone Tire and Rubber Co., the picture was a Walt Disney production on "How a Tire is Built."

Installation of new officers will be held at the first meeting in January, when they will have a dinner-dance.

Parking Meter Ordinance Passed In Face Of Protest By Chamber

Despite reading of a letter voicing opposition of merchants to installation of parking meters in downtown Torrance, the City Council Tuesday night voted unanimously, without dissent, for a measure providing for fines and enforcement in connection with such installation.

Purchase of 200 of the meters from the Pacific Marbelite Co. had already been ordered some two months ago. Tuesday's action merely provides for compulsory "feeding" of the machines.

COUNTY SUES 3 TORRANCE FIRMS ON SMOG; COUNCIL DELAYS ORDINANCE ACTION

Three Torrance firms were targets of civil suits for abatement of alleged smog and fumes nuisances, filed Tuesday by District Attorney Fred N. Hovser and his deputies.

Action was taken under provisions of state public nuisance codes, and injunctions sought against the alleged violators. Of 13 defendants throughout the county, the three in the Torrance area were Pacific Smelting Co., 2219 Western ave.; General Petroleum Corp. of California, 190th st. and Crenshaw blvd.; and Columbia Steel Co., 1340 Border ave.

The suits charged creating a public nuisance "by existing and permitting to pass into the atmosphere poisonous, noxious, irritating and offensive fumes, gases, smoke, soot, grime, dust, hydrocarbons, particulate matter, chemical substances and other products of combustion, partial combustion and other processes, all of which are and is injurious to health, offensive to the senses and an obstruction to the free use of property so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property by the entire community and neighborhood and a considerable number of persons in the county of Los Angeles."

Meanwhile smog hung heavy over the heads of Torrance city councilmen Tuesday night, with requests both for passage and for postponement of a proposed uniform control ordinance.

Read in the meeting was a communication from Emmett A. Ryan of Gardena, urging abatement of the "fume nuisance from the General Petroleum refinery."

"In Great Falls, Mont.," the message continued, "a 550-foot stack cured a similar nuisance. The G. P. engineers can take care of this if told they must."

A proposed city ordinance No. 380, establishing an office of air pollution control, was ofered for first reading at the meeting. Explaining the measure, Mayor J. Hugh Sherrey Jr. said it was identical with the ordinance requested by the county board of supervisors to permit uniform smog control enforcement.

However, at the request of R. I. Plomert Jr., of General Petroleum Corporation, the reading was postponed another week to permit review of proposed ordinance. Next regular meeting of the council is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 22.

Torrance, Lomita Registrations Show Increase

The City of Torrance kept pace in voting registration with a rise to an all time high for the county as a whole, figures reported by the Registrar of Voters office revealed yesterday.

As the county registration climbed to 1,861,145, Torrance showed 5,748 enrolled, a gain of 310 over the June primary figure of 5,438. Democrats held their customary two-to-one preponderance, boasting 8,849 against 1,629 for the GOP. Figures in June were 3,689 and 1,503 respectively.

In Lomita (including Harbor City), similar increases were reported. Democratic figures of 2,987 and Republican figures of 1,157 brought a total of 4,333. This was an increase of 96 from June, when Democrats numbered 2,951 and Republicans 1,134.

A breakdown of the statistics revealed an average gain of four to five per cent in most districts. This may be considered as small in view of the normal population growth and greater increase in general than in primary elections.

Present registration of 51,661 for the 68th assembly district included 36,504 Democrats and 12,992 Republicans, comparing with total of 48,218, divided 34,484 and 11,481 in June.

All totals, in addition to the major parties, include about five percent of registrants who declined to state affiliation, and a scattering of Prohibitionists and miscellaneous party members.

LITTLE PIGS GO TO MARKET; SAUL CRIES 'WHEE!'

This little pig went to market—and Ed Saul cried 'Whee!' all the way home.

The North Torrance stock man has been taking pigs, big and little, to market for years. But yesterday was the day after the President had lifted price controls on livestock and Ed returned with his eyes and pockets bulging.

"I took three truckloads of hogs to market and got \$29 a hundred," he exclaimed. "This is an all-time high."

New Riviera Area Homes Expected To Up Torrance Population 3000

Over 1,100 lots are being developed and 219 homes being constructed in Torrance's "beach" area, on a subdivision known as Palos Verdes Riviera.

Homes there are expected to bring an additional 3,000 population to the City of Torrance within the next half year.

These facts were brought out yesterday by Charles E. Kenner, vice president of Avalon Corp., which is subdividing a tract of several hundred acres adjacent to the Hollywood Riviera.

Replying to questions raised in a controversy at the Oct. 7 meeting of the Hollywood Riviera Homeowners Association, Kenner stated that:

1. The site had lain idle for a number of years, and that acute housing shortage required that it be developed.
2. Homes being erected will not damage property values, being three-bedroom frame and stucco structures priced to sell to veterans through GI loans.
3. Basic restrictions for the development are the same as for the surrounding area, and are not controlled by the contractors in any event.
4. Property taxes on the tract, unpaid since 1980, are again being remitted.
5. Home completions are expected at the rate of five a day, beginning Feb. 1.

Kenner's statement came as an aftermath to an "explosion" occasioned at the Hollywood Riviera group's meeting following a report by C. W. Key, chairman of the deeds and restrictions committee, on development of the tract.

Key also reported on the National Home and Property Owners' Foundation meeting in Los Angeles. Other business at the meeting included a report by Cndt. W. A. Mason on petitions for formation of a South Bay Water District, and a report by Chairman John Stram on a list of improvements for the community, soon to be placed before the Torrance City Council.

Next meeting of the group will be Nov. 4 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stone, 121 Via Los Miradores.

| Official U. S. Weather Bureau TEMPERATURE | Max | Min | Humidity |
|---|-----|------|----------|
| Oct. 9 | 84 | 48 | |
| 10 | 83 | 51 | |
| 11 | 90 | 51 | |
| 12 | 86 | 50 | |
| 13 | 81 | 58 | |
| 14 | 79 | 56 | |
| 15 | 86 | 54 | |
| PRECIPITATION (Storm Total) (Year) | | | |
| Oct. 1 | 20 | | |
| Oct. 16 | 15 | 5.79 | |