

Torrance Now 'Worth' More Than Last Year

Total assessed valuation of all real and personal property in the City of Torrance for 1949 is \$46,913,940, an increase of \$6,906,590 over 1948, it was reported this week to Supervisor Darby by County Auditor Joseph M. Lowery.

This includes secured property assessed at \$44,511,530 and unsecured personal property valued at \$2,402,410. Darby disclosed officials of Torrance are required to submit the city tax rate to Lowery's office not later than Tuesday, August 30, at which time the Board of Supervisors will officially adopt the various county tax rates as well.

Total assessed valuation of all property in the county, including that located within the incorporated cities as well as that located in unincorporated territory amounts to \$5,204,316,370 a rise of \$361,078,075 over last year's figures, or an increase of 7.5 per cent.

ENLARGEMENT OF EL RETIRO PARK RECOMMENDED

Acquisition of additional property bordering El Retiro Park was recommended by Councilman Nick Dralle Tuesday night. "It would seem," said Dralle, "that now would be a good time to acquire some of the adjacent property while the price is still within reach."

The council voted to have the city manager make a survey of the surrounding property.

JUST A NOTE

"What this country needs is a man who can be right and President at the same time."—William Lyon Phelps.

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Scouting Around

By BOB MAXFIELD

This is the story of a young fellow who has been waiting for almost forty years to join the Boy Scouts of America. What do I mean? Who is he? Well, this young fellow is the 11-year-old boy who has been waiting throughout the forty years of the Boy Scout's history for his twelfth birthday so that he may meet the minimum age requirements for the world's largest youth organization.

This 11-year-old boy has perhaps been a Cub Scout, and his membership in the Junior Scouting movement has only whetted his appetite for the high adventure enjoyed by his older scout brothers. He has yearned for the hiking, camping, and good fellowship to be found in the active Boy Scout program. He will yearn no more, however, for here is good news.

After much investigation and thought, the national executive council of the Boy Scouts of America has announced the lowering of the minimum age requirements one year for all Scouts. This means that our friend, the 11-year-old boy, will at last be able to don the khaki uniform of the Boy Scout. This age requirement change also will affect the Cub Scouts and Senior Scouts when it goes into effect September 1. After that date, any boy between the ages of eight and 11 may join the Cub Scouts, any boy between the ages of 11 and 14 may join the Boy Scouts, and any young man over fourteen may join any one of the phases of the Senior Scout program.

In its announcement, the national executive council has made several changes in the terminology and structure of the Scout organization. Every member of a Scout Troop, upon reaching his fourteenth birth-

day, automatically becomes an Explorer Scout, the new classification for all branches of senior scouting. He may remain in his Troop, or join a senior scout unit. What was formerly called the Explorer Scout, is now called Land Explorer, the Sea Scout is now the Sea Explorer, and the Air Scout, the Air Explorer.

The Explorer Scout who chooses to remain with his Troop will be assigned to a special patrol composed entirely of Explorers. Here he will have a chance to take part in a more advanced program than will the younger scouts. This new classification will tend to group the Scouts into programs more in keeping with their interests.

For the information of the reader, the following is a list of the Scout units, meeting in the Torrance area. Troop 216 is sponsored by Nativity Church and meets every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Girl Scout hall in the park just west of the County Health Dept. Troop 219 meets at the Scout Hall in Torrance Park each Tuesday evening at 7:30. This Troop is sponsored by Torrance Kiwanis. Troop 241, sponsored by St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 at the St. Andrew's Parish Hall. Troop 721, sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Torrance, holds meetings every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the church. Troop 240 of Walteria, sponsored by the Torrance VFW meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Walteria Recreation Center every Thursday.

Cub Pack 241C holds its regular Cub Pack meeting at St. Andrew's Parish hall on the fourth Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m., while Pack 721C meets on the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church.

OBITUARY

EVA SINCLAIR COOPER

Funeral services for Mrs. Eva Sinclair Cooper, 70, of 1422 Engracia avenue, were conducted Monday morning in Stone & Myers Chapel, Rev. Clarence E. Miller, pastor of First Methodist Church officiating. Entombment followed at Inglewood Mausoleum.

A Torrance resident for the past ten years, Mrs. Cooper was born in Kansas. Death occurred Thursday following a lengthy illness.

Survivors are her husband, William E. Cooper of the Engracia avenue address; two sons, John Cooper, of Houston, Texas; and Logan Cooper, of Birmingham, Ala.; and a daughter, Wilma Mair, of Monrovia. Also surviving are two sisters, Mrs. Dora Crawford, Los Angeles; and Mrs. Lydia Meek, Oklahoma; a brother, John Sinclair, of Kansas, and five grand children.

JOHN BERANEK

Services have been scheduled for Saturday in Stone & Myers Chapel for John Beranek, 81, of 21726 S. Main street, whose death occurred yesterday at a local hospital. Interment will be in Roosevelt Memorial Park.

A native of Austria, Mr. Beranek had made his home here for 26 years.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Theresa Beranek, of the home address and Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Elmene, also of Torrance.

BENEFITS TOP 48 MILLION

California families received \$48,468,000 in life insurance death benefit payments in the first half of this year, compared with \$44,058,000 in the corresponding period of last year and \$27,592,000 in the first half of 1941, according to the Institute of Life Insurance.

Moose Slate Initiation; Dance

Loyal Order of Moose, Torrance Lodge No. 785, tomorrow night will install a new class of 55 candidates, announced F. A. Dobson, secretary. Saturday evening the lodge, in

conjunction with the Women of the Moose, will stage a dinner-dance at the V.F.W. Hall. The \$1.25 per plate ham dinner will be served from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The dancing will fol-

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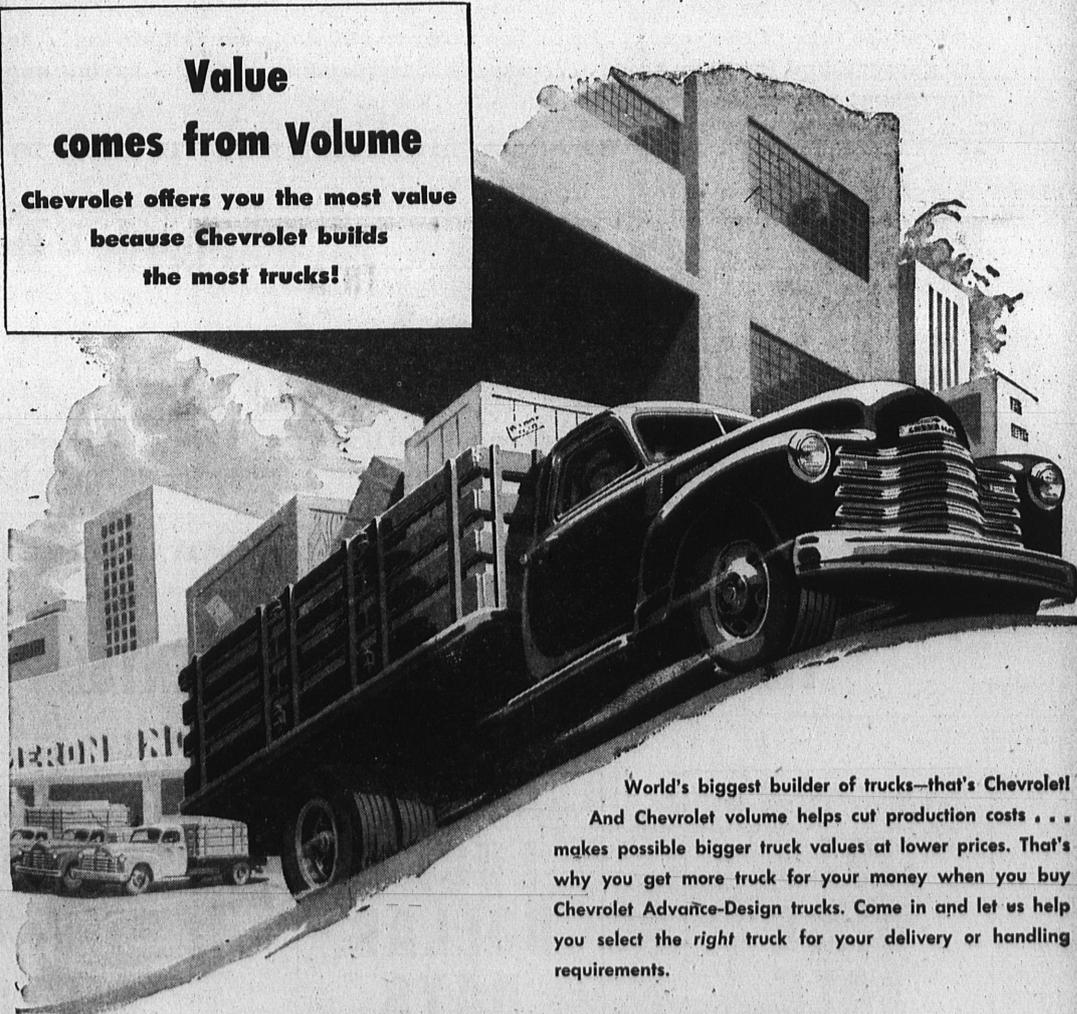
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Project Play Areas Recommended

"Future sub-dividers should consider allotting space for recreational areas," was the recommendation made by Councilman Bob L. Haggard at last Tuesday's council meet.

The recommendation came during the session when two sub-dividers requested approval of tentative tract maps.

One of the sub-dividers, Truman Browne, told the council he had allowed more than an

acre in his proposed subdivision for a settling basin and play area. He proposes to build a new home project at 182nd street and Hawthorne boulevard. Another request, from John Kettler, builder of nearly 500 homes in the Kettler Knolls tract, also requested approval of a new tract map. His request was held up pending a meeting with the developer to

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