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TORRANCE, CALIF., JANUARY 26, 1923

Price 5 Cents

NO. 4

COUNCIL WILL AID RESIDENTS IN PAVING

Will Insist That Legal Notice Be Sent To Taxpayers

Among the outstanding features of the council meeting Tuesday night was the successful efforts of Secretary Gadeky in securing the co-operation of the trustees in bringing to a focus the paving imbroglio on Arlington street and to secure the passage of a resolution placing the city fathers on record for an extension of time on the payments due from the adjacent property owners due February 1.

While the debate on the paving subject was not so exhaustive as the previous week, when every phase of the question was gone into, enough was said to convince the trustees that unless specific promises for immediate repair of the paving were made by the paving company, property owners would refuse to make their payments or else make them under protest.

When the matter was brought up for discussion Secretary Gadeky presented a petition signed by more than a dozen property owners on Arlington asking that the council use its best efforts to get a thorough understanding from the Willite people as to just what they intended doing and when.

Mr. Gadeky was followed by G. A. R. Steiner, who exhibited a notice he had received from Kirk Bros. stating that his assessment for the Arlington pavement would become due February 1 and if not paid by that time would be subject to a 10 per cent rate of interest.

Mr. Steiner first wished to be informed who Kirk Bros. were, and secondly, if in the opinion of the city attorney and other taxpayers declined to or did not pay prior to the proposed mass meeting on February 6, would they thereby incur the penalty of paying interest on the bonds at the rate of 10 per cent over a period of 10 years.

The notice Mr. Steiner submitted was updated, as were several others shown during the discussion and used on a form that the city attorney later said was illegal. Mr. Briney also said that Kirk Bros. were the assignees of the contractor and that if at the mass meeting February 6 one protest was made by property owners new notices would have to be issued.

Owing to the fact that the notices sent the taxpayers by Kirk Bros. were misleading in that they were neither dated nor numbered, it was finally decided to pass a resolution, to be found in another column, addressed to Kirk Bros., a copy of which Mr. Briney said he would deliver the following morning.

Following the reading and adoption of the resolution Mr. Briney announced that it was more than probable that the meeting between the Arlington taxpayers and the Willite company would take place next week, due notice of which would be sent everyone interested.

While nothing definite was accomplished in untangling the zoning situation which has become so confusing to intending builders, more than an hour was devoted to a discussion of the subject during which Mr. Steiner clearly set forth the attitude of the Dominguez Land corporation regarding the carrying out of the provisions of the Torrance declaration relative to the class and cost of buildings.

Mayor Fitzhugh, who arrived late at the meeting, also took a hand in the discussion by saying that President Osburn of the land company had taken the council to task for permitting certain classes of buildings to be erected in violation of the agreement between the late Mr. Torrance and the land company. In the absence from the city of Engineer Jessup, who has been for some time working on the zoning map, it could not be learned whether the latter would be ready for adoption but it was thought this could take place at the next council meeting.

Other matters of a more or less routine nature reported of Tuesday's meeting were the referring to the city attorney of a request by the Consolidated Lumber company, through its attorneys, Turner and Green, for the leasing of certain tract of land near its present lumber yard.

Application of John Holm to construct certain sidewalks was referred to the city engineers for report. The application of the Southern California Gas company to excavate for gas mains on its extension on Kalama street and also on Cedar north from Carson, was allowed.

The application, made in the form of a sketch, of George A. Daley, to construct a row of single room bungalows on block 52, east of Madrid, with four garages, shower baths and toilets in the rear, was refused on the advice of the city attorney, who stated the council had authority to refuse to grant a building permit if the intended structure was considered unsightly.

H. W. Roberts, proprietor of the El Prado apartments, made a mild protest on behalf of his guests to the holding of steeplechases on any other night in the week except Saturday. The protest was aimed at the free street dance to be given Monday evening, January 29, by Tom Bartlett, who had postponed it from tomorrow night owing to the first date conflicting with the ball to be given by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the local Legion in view of the fact that Mr. Bartlett had unwittingly set the date and gone to considerable trouble and expense in the matter, it was the opinion of the board that it should be permitted, with the understanding that in future the affairs, that are to be given place twice a month, must be taken on Saturday nights only.

The light committee reported that the flicker lights in front of the

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REQUESTS NEW ASSESSMENT NOTICES

The following resolution was adopted by the board of trustees Tuesday night and a copy was ordered sent to Kirk Bros. Los Angeles bond house, who are the assignees of the Los Angeles Paving company.

RESOLUTION NO. 109

RESOLVED, That the board of trustees of the city of Torrance do hereby protest against the form of notices heretofore given by Kirk Bros. to property owners within the assessment districts for the paving of Arlington avenue and Carson street in the city of Torrance, and hereby request said Kirk Bros. to serve proper notices and demands on the owners of property within said districts, and consider the notices and demands heretofore given as invalid and of no force or effect.

Since the above resolution was adopted, Kirk Bros. have signed out new notices and have stated that they will be sent within a few days.

Announcement is also made by the city officials that the street assessments on Carson and Arlington streets may be paid after the hearing before the board of trustees on February 6 without being subject to the charges and that announcement will be made at the meeting of February 6 as to the latest date on which such payments may be made without bearing interest.

FRANCHISE IS SOLD TO SANTA FE RAILROAD

Grading of Right of Way Through Torrance to Start Soon

The Los Angeles city council Tuesday, by a vote of seven to one, accepted the offer of and sold to the Santa Fe railway company the franchise to enter and establish terminals in the harbor district.

The city attorney was instructed to submit the necessary ordinance.

Councilman Sparks voted against the proposition. He maintains that no provision is made for the immediate separation of grade crossings along Slauson avenue.

This means that within a short time "dirt will be flying" in and around Torrance and the long desired transcontinental road will be breaking its right of way through this city toward the harbor. It is understood that when the construction gang begins work, a large permanent camp will be erected near the northern boundary of the city, where several hundred men will be permanently employed.

The board of trustees is in operation within a few days, and Mr. Smith, of the Torrance Electric company stated that the lights were completed in the playground strip.

The board decided that in future all building permits should inform the prospective builder that the permit in no way permitted the violation of the agreement of the owner with the Dominguez Land corporation. A rubber stamp conveying this information was ordered purchased.

City Attorney Briney read to the board a deed signed by the Pacific Electric company deeding to the city a strip of land owned by the city on the Post avenue. The strip of land in question is 23 feet wide and extends down the middle of the street. A clause in the deed reserved the right of the company to build a railway line on the strip at any time. As the deed was sent the city solicited and gave the city apparently no more rights than they now had, the communication was tabled.

In the matter of the city's part in the "sewer farm" three-cornered suit between the Dominguez Land company and Torrance, Mr. Briney reported that in the matter of the judgment the judge held that the city should amend its complaint in the matter of the "dedication" of the tract for sewage purposes. He said the case would be set for trial about three weeks but that it would come to trial for at least six months, owing to the crowded calendar of the court's calendar.

Owing to the fact that the Santa Fe railroad has been granted the franchise to build its road from El Segundo to the harbor by way of Torrance, Mr. Briney was instructed to draft a franchise for this city based on those given the road by other municipalities.

The attention of the ordinance committee was called to the many alleged violations of traffic laws by drivers of vehicles who leave their cars, trucks and trailers on the streets at night without lights.

Ordinance No. 46 regarding the material to be used in the construction of factories, sheds and similar buildings was read for the last time and adopted.

The mayor was instructed to request the Pacific Electric railway to install noiseless wig-wags at the corner of Wells, Doble and Carson streets.

The paving of Cabrillo street south of Carson was referred to the city engineer for investigation and report.

An ordinance providing a penalty of \$50 per cent for non-payment of business licenses was read for the first time.

In the matter of systematic street lighting, the lighting committee was instructed to procure estimates.

E. L. Stanley, at present employed on the police force of Hawthorne, was engaged as an extra motorcycle officer at a monthly salary of \$135, and a motorcycle fully equipped at a price not to exceed \$450 was ordered purchased.

4TH DISTRICT MEET HEARS STEVENSON

Organizer of Chambers of Commerce Delivers Stirring Lecture

HERMOSA BEACH, Jan. 26.—The potentiality of each city and community in the metropolitan area of Los Angeles to thrive and come into prominence, if its natural advantages are recognized and suitable plans and restrictions are placed in force to direct its growth, was the keynote of an impressive address on the subject of Decentralization, delivered by James C. Stevenson, well known civic commercial organization authority, before 150 members of the Fourth District Chamber of Commerce here Thursday evening.

Mr. Stevenson, who is thoroughly familiar with Southern California because of his extensive association with chambers of commerce in organization work, uttered a strutting statement when he took issue with the prediction that Los Angeles would be a larger city than New York. He gave as his reason the refusal during this age, of people to be cooped up in tenements and apartment houses in congested areas, when the opportunity is provided in the more desirable cities to have a home and the freedom of life which is the rightful heritage of every American citizen.

The speaker emphasized his argument in favor of decentralization by referring to the large number of exclusive clubs in the heart of New York city which are fast losing their identity by consolidation or absolute neglect. These clubs, he said, are the result of social distinction and marriage, which was sought even at the cost of expensive membership fees. Golf, country and seaside clubs are the resorts are now flourishing at the expense of the harbor district. The development of the transportation problem was developed to its present high point.

Cities and communities will be well repaid for directing their development in the trend which natural advantages now indicate, stated the speaker, who pointed out striking illustrations. Riverside, with its Mission Inn, has developed a hospitable social life which is a credit to the city upon its visitors. Pasadena, as a beautiful home city, has its Rose bowl to attract its share of attention from the center of the state. Hermosa Beach, Santa Monica, Venice and Redondo are beach cities which offer unexcelled opportunities for delightful home life at the seashore. Wilmington, San Pedro and Long Beach, on the other hand, have the advantages of the Pacific will bring to them. Torrance is particularly a manufacturing city, as is Huntington Park, Burbank and Ontario.

The best development will come when a manufacturing center, builds homes for its workmen; and when a city which is not apparent because of a conglomerate of interests, a city may be smothered if congestion stifles the convenient maintenance of commercial activity and the pleasure of the citizens, said Mr. Stevenson, who compared the condition to a pan of dough. When yeast is added to a mixture in the correct proportion, it will ferment and rise to a certain point. When this point is reached, unless it is worked with experienced hands, it will sour and curdle. The little monies that cause the inflation, fighting for subsistence will smother and when they become too numerous, the simple life is apt to be smothered.

De-centralization is going on very rapidly in Los Angeles today. The increase in population and development of many smaller cities 15 miles from the city, has been greater in recent years than in the very heart of the city.

Members of the chamber refused to recommend to the present legislature that gasoline be declared a public utility; but the suggestion that a law be enacted reducing to a majority, with the result that while progressives cast their votes for the mother and fathers who desire the proper facilities for the education of the young are only given a single voice.

The proposition to grant power to cities to own and operate parks out to the suburbs outside their own municipalities also received the enthusiastic endorsement of the body, and representatives of the fourth district in the assembly will be asked to push a bill granting these rights to the city.

D. W. Phelps, on behalf of the Garden chamber of commerce, received the endorsement of the chamber for a legislative measure granting the establishment rights-of-way and assess benefit in unincorporated communities.

The next meeting of the fourth district chamber will be held in Compton on February 15. At this time Hon. Frank M. Merriam, of Long Beach, president of the association, and speaker of the assembly, will preside.

W. E. Finkle, of the Southwest chamber of commerce, and first vice president, was in the chair Thursday evening, and Thomas Blair, of Redondo Beach assumed the duties as secretary of the organization.

AN OVERSIGHT

Through an oversight in making up this week's issue, nearly a column of church news was omitted. We ask the indulgence of our readers.

The Torrance library is much indebted to John W. Fleisher for the gift of a set of Scott's novels.

Miss Carrie Singlaub of Elwood, Pa., is visiting her niece, Mrs. Willis Brooks, this week. It has been 16 years since they last met.

Month's Building Permits \$53,550

Up to and including Wednesday, January 24, building permits to the total value of \$53,550 have been issued by the city clerk for this month, of which \$15,000 was issued during the past seven days.

This includes only one of the nine brick structures that are about ready to be erected as soon as the weather settles. The one referred to is the Mask building on Sartori avenue, construction of which will begin Monday.

The permits issued during this week include American Reinforced System, John Bergstrom, Thompson & Stowell, E. Mosk, Victor Magnus and Miss Rothleder.

Walter Levy of Independence is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Brooks this week. He will return home the last of the week with Mrs. Carrie Singlaub, of Elwood, Pa., and his wife, who has been here visiting her sister, for two months.

OCEAN AVENUE TO HAVE NEW RY. STATION

Effort Being Made to Have Railway Co. Add Train

Most of the two-hour session of the meeting of the directors of the chamber of commerce Tuesday afternoon was devoted to a discussion of the unsatisfactory manner in which the paving contractor was left by the Arlington avenue was left by the paving contractor.

Several speakers took part in the effort to bring about a settlement of the vexing question and Director Klusman presented to the board a petition signed by 15 taxpayers that section setting forth their views on the subject and asking that the directors use their influence with the city trustees in hastening the matter of having a perfect pavement and the postponement of the date on which the assessments fall due until such time as the Willite company make good their guarantee, printed in a recent issue of the Herald.

Following the reading of the petition and considerable discussion the former was given to Secretary Gadeky with a request that he present it to the city trustees Tuesday night. Extra car service was another matter that was freely discussed, the consensus of opinion being that an early morning through car to Los Angeles was badly needed by residents of Torrance, who desired to reach their work in Los Angeles about seven a. m. and who were now compelled to leave here shortly after five o'clock, reaching Los Angeles 40 minutes before their hour of going to work.

The suggestion that the Pacific Electric company be asked to put on a through car leaving here at 5:50 has been carried out and the directors were informed that the railway company are preparing to take a vote of early morning patrons this week to discover if possible the need for such a car. Secretary Gadeky was requested to co-operate with the railway in bettering the service.

After considerable discussion it was decided to refuse the request of a talking machine record manufacturer by stock selling the he might open a factory in Torrance.

The following new members of the chamber were unanimously elected: Sophia Burkhardt, L. C. Jennings, R. Dunham, and two later being an addition to the real estate dealers of Torrance.

KEYSTONE NEWS

Miss Blossom Rogue is visiting with her aunt, Miss Bertha Everard, at Pasadena this week. The absence of the large number of mudhens in the slough this year has caused much talk among the Keystone residents. It is possible that they do not like the mixture of oil and water.

Mr. Webb and his family moved to Santa Fe Springs this week.

F. D. Cogswell spent Monday and Tuesday in Los Angeles waiting for his mother, who is coming from Los Angeles. He received a letter Wednesday to the effect that she had not left yet.

MACABEE NOTES

The Marathon will meet with Mrs. Nettie Botton at Gramercy avenue, Tuesday evening, January 30. Members are invited to bring a friend.

Torrance Review No. 37 is to furnish a guard team of 16 with captain Lieutenant and two color bearers at the Marathon convention to be held in May. The Court of the Rose will also furnish its quota.

NOTICE

A dance will be held in Catholic hall Saturday evening, February 3. Good music will be furnished, delicious and refreshing punch will be served and a general good time for all who enjoy dancing. The admission to be 50c each, dancing starts at 8:30 p. m.

POPULAR GROCER RETURNS

"They all come back," says Charles Inman, former manager of Daleys and Rook's grocery store in Torrance, who returned a few days ago to again assume the management of the popular store.

Mr. Inman was promoted a few months ago to the main store room in Los Angeles and given a position of responsibility but whether the responsibility was too much of a burden or the love for Torrance too great Mr. Inman recently expressed a desire to return to his many friends here and his request was granted this week, where he will remain permanently.

WAREHOUSE IS TO SUPPLY COMEDIAN

A furniture warehouse in Hollywood, California, is kept busy supplying Larry Semon with articles to smash up. In "Golf," a comedy which will be shown at the Torrance theater on Sunday and Monday, February 4 and 5, Larry destroys several hundred dollars' worth of furniture. A potter is kept constantly at work providing reproductions of art treasures so that the comedian will have enough bric-a-brac to destroy in his comedies. In "Golf" some rare pieces of statuary and vases are ruined. "I'd rather be hit by plaster than by a custard pie," said Larry, who has the reputation of being the man who put the smash in pottery.

JAYHAWKERS' RALLY

Those who have lived in the Sunflower state are called to meet under the auspices of the Kansas association of Long Beach for the great annual picnic reunion, all day, Monday, January 29, 1923, at the pier and auditorium. There will be a brief program opening about two o'clock, but the main purpose will be to have a good time. Bring your baskets well filled. Each one who learns of this picnic is asked to pass the word along.

Mr. and Mrs. Janerish and family of Los Angeles spent Sunday with Mrs. Ted Wertz of Torrance Park.

The clever woman is the one who makes her husband believe he knows more than she does.

Maybe the reason congress doesn't ask any pay for overtime is because it never puts in any.

—M. W. of A. Show Feb. 7—

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TORRANCE SCHOOL NOTES

Miss Bertha Fix has been elected president and Mill Helen Breitholle vice president of the student body for the second semester.

The student body of the high school is growing rapidly and are planning, under the new officers, to take up several big undertakings that will develop when we enter our new buildings, into a practical commercial enterprise.

The junior and senior students are now preparing a play to be given in the latter part of March.

Friday night, January 19, 1923, the junior and senior classes gave a party at the high school. The evening was spent in interesting games planned by Helen Breitholle, Helen Tiffany and Loretta Condey. Later in the evening a taffy pull was enjoyed by all, after which refreshments of cake and punch were served by the refreshment committee, which consisted of Lillian Elman, Bertha Fix and Gwendolyn Miller. When the guests departed all agreed they had had a good time. Those present were Betsy Burns, Helen Breitholle, Blanche Fix, Bertha Fix, Lillian Elman, Clara Totten, Mary Jessome, Loretta Condey, Ruth McKenzie, Helen Tiffany, Ione Barnett, Ethel Bodley, Gwendolyn Miller, Clifford Simpson, Earl Condey, Harold King, Harvey Tyler, Charles Stroll, Theodore Weeks, Dale Gipe, Roy McKenzie, Carl Von Hagen, Lloyd Brennan, and Jim Helton. Members of the faculty who were present were Miss Mabel Taylor, Elizabeth Parks, Helen Collier, Marguerite Jones, Eva Jones, Irene Mills, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Mowry and Dr. Barnett.

Mr. Corcoran, supervisor of agriculture of the Los Angeles city schools, visited here Friday of last week.

The supervisor of modern languages, Mr. Wheeler, visited Miss Taylor's classes one afternoon this week.

OIL MYSTERY OF CESSPOOL WELL DEEPENS

County Chemist Makes Test of Oil and Announces Result

The mystery of high gravity oil in a 30-foot cesspool in Keystone, a mile east of Torrance, on the Harbor boulevard, apparently solved by the statement of the chemist at the Standard Oil refinery at El Segundo, Tuesday when G. L. Walker, Los Angeles county chemist, employed by the district attorney's office, made an official report on his findings.

Following the astonishing find on the Deseran ranch of six acres of what appeared to be a considerable quantity of crude oil at the bottom of a 30-foot cesspool, and the subsequent unprecedented sale of property in that vicinity at double and treble the ordinary price, the district attorney began an investigation.

Thursday, January 11, two members of the county official's office, in the absence of the district attorney, came to Torrance on a tour of investigation. After questioning several residents of Keystone and this city they departed for Los Angeles taking with them a sample of the Deseran oil. Wednesday of this week Mr. Walker, the chemist, reported that while every test made indicated that the oil had been through a refining process, he was unprepared to say that it was pure oil.

He stated that of the hundreds of samples of oil he had tested during his professional career none had reacted to the test in the manner of the Deseran oil and that it was of an entirely different nature to that of any oil so far discovered in Southern California. His test showed a specific gravity of 31, seven degrees less than that shown by the Standard Oil and General Petroleum tests, made the week previously. This he explained by saying that if the oil contained kerosene, as was likely, it may have evaporated and thus lowered the gravity.

Mr. Walker also said that oil similar to that of the Deseran sample had been discovered in Canada, but so far as he knows is unknown in this country.

—M. W. of A. Show Feb. 7—

CONSTANCE TALMADGE IN "GOOD NIGHT PAUL"

No screen comedy of the year has evoked more laughter and applause from its audience than did the latest Constance Talmadge Revival, "Good Night, Paul," which will be seen Saturday, February 3, at the Torrance theater. "Good Night, Paul" is a farce comedy throughout, clean, wholesome and mirthful, and is just the kind of play which Miss Talmadge is most suited to.

Despite its farcical nature and the tone of whimsicality that dominates it from beginning to end, "Good Night, Paul" has a real story with a plot and at times the performance even threatens to become serious when all of a sudden the story takes one of its many tricky turns and fills the theater with laughter.

Miss Talmadge is her real frolicsome self as Matilda Manners, who, for the sake of relieving a desperate financial situation, poses as the wife of her husband's partner. The beguiled one, of course, is a wealthy uncle, and the manner in which the scheming triumvirate succeeds in relieving the uncle of a comfortable fortune and still remains in his good graces, makes for one of the best comedy pictures of the year.

Norman Kerry and Harrison Ford, both players of exceptional merit, play the principal supporting roles and they bring to the performance much charm and realism.

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TWO NEW OIL WELLS SPURRED IN THIS WEEK

Rotary Machinery Installed on Edens Lease

Two of the five new wells along Carson street have been spudded; Smith No. 1 on the Hub-lease, and Torrance No. 4 on the Chanslor Canfield Midway lease. The other three wells, Torrance No. 5, on the Chanslor Canfield lease, an offset to the Hub's Smith No. 1; Torrance Community No. 3, an offset to Torrance No. 1, and Gilmore No. 1, an offset to the Hub well and just east of it on Dr. Norman A. Leake's property, are about ready to spud in.

All five wells are east of Torrance No. 2 and Torrance Community No. 2, which straddle Carson street and have opened up the possibilities of higher gravity and bigger production farther to the east.

Rotary drilling machinery is being installed in the Orange County Drilling company's well at Western avenue and Thirteenth street, two miles east of production. According to R. W. Edens, head of the Orange County Drilling company, the well will be spudded in before the first of February. This well is expected to determine the future drilling in the unproven area east of Torrance, and it is generally believed that no wells will be started in that territory until the Edens well is completed or uncovers favorable oil showings.

In the western section of the field a number of wells are believed near production. In all cases the oil and gas showings are sufficient to make it safe to predict that all will get commercial production.

The General Petroleum's Van Lew well is nearing the 1600-foot level and is drilling through hard sandy shale. At 450 feet the core test was reported to have given promise of something worthwhile. At 4200 feet gas was discovered and it would not be surprising if an attempt was not made shortly to put the well on production.

The Fullerton Oil company's Lens No. 1 is nearing 4000 feet and as it is within a short distance of the Van Lew well its future drilling is likely to be influenced by the results obtained by the General Petroleum. About a mile north and east of these two wells the Chanslor Canfield Midway Oil company is trying to bring in Dominguez No. 1. This well was spudded in over a year ago and was put down about 4500 feet. The drillers failed to show the water off after several attempts and the well was redrilled for about 500 feet. Water was again encountered and for the past two months the drillers have been working on it. A test is now being made at 4085 feet. A fair producer is looked for if the water is successfully shut off.

The Shell company's deep test well, Redondo No. 1, is standing cemented at 3650 feet.

The Chanslor Canfield Midway Oil company has a fishing job in Torrance No. 1. A casing was broken last week and it was being swabbed out preparatory to a production test.

Del Amo No. 3, just west of the discovery well and south of the Redondo-Torrance well area, is down 3200 feet and should be on production within a short time, as it is understood that the Chanslor Canfield Midway company will not try for deep production in this territory. Work on production in the immediate vicinity have been brought in at about 3600 feet.

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