

Plan Huge Disposal System Here

May Form Sewage District To Carry Waste Into Ocean

Torrance, Lomita, Gardena, Moneta, Hawthorne and Part of Inglewood In Big Drainage District

HUGE TRUNK LINE SEWER PROPOSED

Action Up To Supervisors With Proviso That 2 Per Cent Protests Makes Special Election Necessary

Formation of a large sewage disposal district to include Inglewood, Hawthorne, Gardena, Moneta, Torrance and Lomita is being considered by the board of supervisors at the instance of trustees in Inglewood, Hawthorne and Gardena.

The district would be formed under the new statute by which a comprehensive system of sewage disposal for all Southern California is made possible.

The plan was outlined Tuesday night to the Torrance board of trustees by A. K. Warren, senior engineer of the county surveyor's department.

Formation of the district is in the hands of the board of supervisors who may act with or without petition. In case the board passes a resolution of intention to form such a district, protest by 2 per cent of the citizens in the region affected makes an election necessary.

If a district is formed it will be controlled by a board of directors consisting of the presiding officer of the board of trustees of cities in the district and the chairman of the board of supervisors, representing the unincorporated areas.

Several districts have already been formed and many more are in the process of formation.

The county surveyor's department has made tentative plans for districts by drainage areas. The district in which Lomita would be included would take in the southern half of Inglewood. Its west boundary would be the ridge that lies about a mile east of the Pacific. The eastern

boundary would be near the western edge of the shoestring strip of the city of Los Angeles. It would include part of the Palos Verdes property.

Plan Trunk Sewer
Under the plan a great trunk sewer serving the entire district would be constructed. Present sewage systems would drain into this trunk line. A disposal plant would eventually be erected and the affluent water from this carried along the trunk into the sea a mile from shore.

The plan, comprehensive in its scope, takes the future population of the district into consideration. The problem of sewage disposal is already acute in Southern California and becomes more acute as population increases.

Formation of the district does not mean that the trunk sewer and disposal plant will be constructed at once. But it does, as Mr. Warren explained, provide a plan for the future. In case the trunk sewer is constructed and the disposal plant erected, communities with their own sewage systems may continue to operate them until such time as increased population necessitates use of the district system.

Plan for Future
The surveyor's department has outlined a great and comprehensive plan for future years. It is thought that eventually cleaned affluent water from the disposal plant may be pumped back to replenish the supply of water for irrigation purposes.

The Torrance trustees delayed action pending further investigation by the sewer committee.

Observations

A Prominent Geologist Makes Optimistic Prediction Regarding Future Of Oil Field—Hate Costs Money

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

A PROMINENT geologist—one of the most prominent, and on the staff of one of the largest oil companies in the business—has just completed an exhaustive and extensive study of the vast oil producing area that stretches from Redondo to Keystone.

He has applied to this study an expert knowledge gleaned from a wide experience in oil fields the country over. And he declares that wells will be pumping oil out of the ground here twenty years hence. That is interesting and good news, coming from a scientist who knows pretty well whereof he speaks.

To quote this man in part as he set forth a few salient points about this field:

"This is one of the most interesting fields I have ever studied. It presents unusual possibilities. I believe that, up to now, its development has been almost entirely in the experimental stage. New methods of drilling and new producing methods will shortly increase production per well considerably.

"Various methods of drilling and producing in the field have been tried. Owing to improved methods some of the companies are getting a larger yield than others in the same area.

"It is only natural that methods employed by the more successful will become general throughout the field.

"I believe future drilling, to a great extent, will be done with combination tools—rotary as far down as the oil structure and cable from there on. The use of cable tools, of course, obviates the necessity of using rotary mud. In a field of moderate gas pressure, such as this, the disadvantages of mud are pronounced.

"In the low pressure fields of the north, the combination system is used almost exclusively and with excellent results. It is likely, too, that production methods of the north will soon be put into practice here, with the vacuum screen playing an important part.

"It is noticeable that companies which use very thin rotary mud at the low levels secure the largest production. It is logical to assume that the elimination of all mud with cable tools will bring even better results.

"We are fortunate in this field in having such a deep sand—in many places more than 250 feet deep. The viscosity of the sand, together with its depth and the low gas pressure, assure long life to the field. They will be pumping oil here twenty years hence.

"The recoverable oil from the top formation, conservatively speaking, is about 185,000 barrels to the acre. Near the edges, of course, the amount is lower.

"Improved drilling and producing methods, the results of experience in the field, will make for larger daily production per well.

"Great gusher wells are spectacular. But the high gas pressure that makes their daily yield large declines so rapidly that the recoverable oil is soon brought to the surface.

"In the final analysis, the field with a deep sand and low gas pressure is eventually more profitable, if less spectacular, than the great gusher districts.

"This is a splendid field with a wonderful deep sand and a huge proven acreage. Under the pump, the top sand here alone will eventually be more profitable to landowners and operators than many of the short-lived, spectacular fields of the mid-continent and of California."

It is interesting to realize that your scientist can compute with amazing accuracy the amount of recoverable oil in a given area. From cores taken from various parts of the field he tests the viscosity and productivity of a small unit—say a cubic foot. He knows the depth of the sand. He knows the percentage of oil recoverable at various gas pressures and from various depths. From then on his method is one of mere multiplication. One cubic foot will yield so much oil. There are so many cubic feet to the acre. The one multiplied by the other gives the answer.

Of course the computer takes into consideration many other technical points, but the method, broadly speaking, is simple and surprisingly accurate, as results in other fields now drained testify.

POLITICAL animosity which develops into strife over almost every project proposed for the general welfare costs the taxpayers money. Not indirectly, but directly. Contractors and bond houses watch communities closely. There is plenty of business for reputable concerns, plenty of bonds for the market which the bonding houses represent. Consequently they steer clear of communities in which factions are fighting. When they do bid for work or for bonds in a community where political warfare has reached unusual proportions they boost the price a bit, for fear of possible consequences of the political turmoil.

Usually, however, the result of intense community strife between factions reduces the number of companies who will enter that community as job or bond bidders. Reduce the number of competitors for a job or for a series of bonds, and you raise the price. The taxpayer foots the bill.

Honest difference of opinion always exists in every community. But honest difference of opinion is not strife born of political ambitions and personal hatreds. There is a vast difference.

Fight foolishly and you pay for it in increased taxes. Bury personal animosities for the general weal and you save money—actually, not theoretically.

Beware of politically ambitious individuals, shouting their hatreds from the housetops.

They speed personal ambition at the expense of community progress. In their eager desire for political power their self-enthusiasm becomes a burden on others.

And the taxpayer foots the bill.

THE entire city should approve of the broad policy adopted by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, in inviting representatives of all civic organizations to attend the meetings of the chamber's directors, each Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

We believe we voice the unanimous opinion of the board when we say that a Chamber of Commerce should be the one organization which knows no political or religious differences. It is, or should be, the clearing house of all opinions and ideas, reflecting a unified sentiment of all citizens on all matters of public welfare. It should not align itself with any faction in any highly controversial matter. It should steer clear of political fights.

Here is one organization in the city to which every citizen should belong. The policy of the directors, reflected in its request that representatives of all organizations attend its meetings, signifies wide vision upon which, and upon which alone, a Chamber of Commerce can succeed in accomplishing the community tasks to which it has, does, and will dedicate itself.

January Permits Give 1924 Great Start Over 1923

PREDICT NEW PRACTICES IN OIL DISTRICT

Combination Tools Seen as Promise of Bigger Yield

The general use of cable tools in combination with the rotary is predicted for the oil field here by operators who have studied the field in all its peculiarities.

With geologists estimating that the recoverable oil in the field runs, according to the most conservative computations, 185,000 barrels to the acre, operators during the past month have been devoting much thought to drilling methods.

It is generally agreed that the use of mud and water in the oil formation, necessary when rotary is used, makes for smaller production.

The sand in the field is 250 feet deep. The amount of recoverable oil is sufficient to make wells pay out. The next step in the history of the field will be a change in drilling and production methods to recover all the oil possible.

As a result every operator in the field, big and little, will watch with unusual interest the success of the Gilmore Oil company on its No. 3 well on the lease secured from the Petroleum corporation. This property is near the corner of Arlington avenue and the old Redondo road.

The field now enters a new stage in which pioneering for deeper sands and the inauguration of drilling methods new to the field are the outstanding features.

In the meantime the most intense development is taking place in the southwestern and eastern extensions. In east Lomita the independents have erected a new forest of derricks, while the northeast extension finds Standard, Shell, Superior, Milley and Sentinel engaged in large drilling programs.

Two new wells were placed on production Monday and Tuesday. Checat Trust brought in Phenix No. 2 on Acacia street from 3760 feet for 400-barrel production. Rogers and Edwards completed their West Acacia street well at 3770 feet for 500 barrels.

Osburn Resigns As Director Of Dominguez Land

The following letter has been received by directors of the Dominguez Land corporation:

Feb. 5th, 1924.
To the President and Directors of Dominguez Land Corporation.
Gentlemen:

"As I have disposed of my stock in the Dominguez Land Corporation, I am no longer qualified to act as a Director and I hereby resign as a Director of that corporation to take effect at once.

"Wishing you all and the corporation continued success, I am
Sincerely yours,
"M. R. OSBURN."

Funeral Parlors Open In Torrance

New entrants into the list of business firms in Torrance are Stone & Myers, partners in the Torrance Funeral Home.

Mr. Stone is known to the residents of this community as a man capable in his profession, which he has practiced for some time in Lomita.

The new firm has located at 1732 Cabrillo avenue, where a building recently completed gives them quarters suitably arranged and equipped for their needs.

The parlors are unassuming in their exterior appearance, which prepares the visitor for the good taste and simplicity of the appointments within.

Alfred Gourdir Goes To Hospital For An Operation

Postmaster Gourdir entered the Veterans' hospital at Sawtelle Friday, where he will undergo an operation. Mr. Gourdir will be glad to have his friends call on him there.

Total For Month \$101,520, Against \$69,400 In Jan. Last Year

HOUSES IN LEAD

February Gets Off To Flying Start In Building Boom

Last year was a record year in Torrance building, but 1924 promises to be even greater. January building permits this year were \$31,120 higher than for the corresponding month of 1923.

Last month they totaled \$101,520. In January, 1923, they amounted to \$69,400. Of the January total \$83,020 was for dwelling house construction. February permits started off with a rush and already are more than half what they were for the whole month of January.

Business Is Good In King's Court; Watch Your Step

While the increase in the number of minor offenses against the law is not welcome, it is not disastrous to the city coffers. As is shown by the reports of December and January "business" transacted by City Recorder James King. In December the court assessed and collected fines to the amount of \$852.50. The amount collected in January was \$1017.

BUSINESS MEN TO GIVE SHOW TO AID SCOUTS

Minstrel Entertainment Will Be Held In Auditorium

At one of the most enjoyable meetings ever held by the Torrance Business Men's association, members voted unanimously to stage a minstrel show here to raise money for the Boy Scouts. Charles Ray was named director of the show, with C. M. McKenzie as assistant. The date of the show, which will utilize most of the available talent in Torrance and surrounding territory, has not been decided upon, but it will be held as one of the first public entertainments to be given in the new high school auditorium.

The business men also voted to hold a dance at Legion hall at a date to be announced later.

Refreshments were served after the business meeting. Frank Melner was tendered a vote of thanks for preparing the lunch without charge to the association.

Anti-Nitro Law Passed; Meeting Night Is Changed

Two ordinances were passed by the board of trustees Tuesday night. One makes it unlawful to transport nitroglycerine through the streets of the city. The other changes the dates of the trustees' meetings from the first and third Tuesday nights in each month to the first and third Monday nights. The meetings will open at 7 p. m., as usual. The meeting night ordinance goes into effect on the first Monday in March. The next meeting of the board will be the third Tuesday of February.

1000 Register In City of Torrance

Deputy Registrar Mrs. Laura Anderson reports that more than 1000 voters have registered in Torrance. She is still busy taking registrations and urges those who have not registered to do so at the Chamber of Commerce office.

A BIRTHDAY PARTY

Little Miss Madeline Hess, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Hess, entertained 18 little friends Monday afternoon in honor of her eighth birthday. Games were greatly enjoyed and delicious refreshments served. A color scheme of pink was carried out in the decorations of the table, the center of attraction being the birthday cake. The guests received Valentine favors.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Mrs. Will Morgan of Keystone entertained at a birthday dinner recently. Dumptings like mother used to make, served with the chicken, brought a smile to the guests' faces that hasn't come off yet. Covers were laid for Mesdames C. E. Butts and Dora Noel of San Pedro, J. L. Luck of Redondo, C. E. Chase of Lomita, and W. E. Crossmyer of Torrance.

MONEY PACKAGE TRACED

"This latter link in the chain was declared to be in the shape of a package of \$1 bills which has since been traced to their original source in Anaheim. A letter was also reported to have been found which had been sent by Hemmi to a sister, Anna H. Preston, in East Grand Forks, Minn. In addition to this witness, cashiers will be called from the banks in Torrance, Los Angeles and Redondo Beach in an effort to identify Abernathy as the man who purchased the series of cashiers' checks that are now in possession of the government men in Los Angeles.

"One of the links in the chain that has been most eagerly sought by post-office inspectors was found yesterday at Manhattan Beach. This was the old automobile owned by Abernathy and later sold by him when a new car was purchased. A thorough search of the machine revealed additional pieces of sealing wax that is said to bear the imprint of an Anaheim bank."

LETTERS AS EVIDENCE

"The evidence unearthed thus far is declared to indicate that it was through Abernathy that all the money was handled. Letters have been found and are now in the possession of government men bearing Abernathy's signature, officials say. These letters were addressed to William Abernathy, a brother, in Lutesville, Mo., and asked that certain sums running into thousands of dollars be converted into cashiers' checks and returned to Abernathy in Anaheim.

"The trail to Lutesville led to the finding of Hemmi's asserted connection with the robbery. On the arrival of government men in Lutesville Hemmi was found there, it is said, explaining to William Abernathy that J. R. Abernathy in Anaheim was a neighbor of certain members of the Los Angeles harbor commission and that by devious means the Hemmi Construction company, an alleged

mythical organization, had been able to obtain contracts, and that in order to prevent a municipal scandal in Los Angeles the money was being handled in this way. Hemmi was allowed to return to Los Angeles with a government man at his heels and was later seen in the Abernathy home in Anaheim, it is asserted.