

Torrance Herald

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Candidates Present Platforms

At the request of the Torrance Herald the eight candidates for city trustees at the election to be held on Monday, April 14, have set forth to the public the platforms on which they are running for office. The Herald is gratified to be able to present the ideas of the eight candidates herewith. We cannot refrain, however, from remarking on the splendid character of the letters written by the candidates and the commendable absence of "mud-slinging," which so frequently characterizes political announcements the country over. The letters follow, being arranged alphabetically from left to right, according to the term for which the candidates are running.

WILLIS M. BROOKS
(Long Term)

Editor Torrance Herald.
Dear Sir: Yours of March 27th, suggesting that candidates for City Trustee state the platform upon which they are running, is very kind indeed and is greatly appreciated.

Torrance is yet in its infancy. It is too young to have a past. Its growth is entirely in the future, and we must keep this thought ever before us, for the path of development at this time will, in a great measure, be the guide for its entire future growth. We must therefore tread warily each step that is taken. With this in mind, my platform can be very briefly stated.

The four candidates (of which I am one) proposed by the Torrance Progress Club and endorsed by the Torrance Business Men's Association and Torrance Realty Board, have a four-square common platform, i. e., "Economy," "Justice," "Progress" and "Fair Play." I believe in a sane, conservative administration of the city's affairs, with a watchful eye for future needs, and a definite policy of civic progress by development along natural lines.

I believe in strict enforcement of laws, efficiency in all the departments of the city government.

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CHARLES ELMAN
(Long Term)

Editor Torrance Herald, Torrance, California.
Dear Sir:

Responding to your recent communication, wish to state that I did not seek the political office of trustee for the City of Torrance, but at the earnest solicitation of my many friends I decided to accept the honor, and was nominated and am in the race to win.

If elected by the majority of the voters, I will serve to the best of my ability, and without fear or favor propose to serve the City of Torrance and help make this city a community in which we may all be proud to live.

I came to this city on July 29, 1922, from St. Louis, Missouri, and in the twenty months of residence have taken interest in practically all activities which were for the good of Torrance.

It is my conviction, and I consider it a duty, to represent not only the business men, but all factions, and unite them for the promotion and up-building of Torrance, and with this plan, ask the support of all the good citizens in this election.

Respectfully yours,
CHAS. ELMAN.

R. R. SMITH
(Long Term)

Editor Torrance Herald.
Dear Sir: Torrance has reached the most important stage in its progress as a city. Founded by a man with great vision, Torrance, in its early days, progressed without being pushed. During the early days of the city as an incorporated municipality, few intensely pressing problems presented themselves. But now, with a great transcontinental railroad planning to make Torrance the center of a vast industrial district, with the city growing in population by leaps and bounds, problems of great moment to our future progress are daily presenting themselves.

It is therefore necessary that any member of a board of trustees of Torrance must enter his term of office with the determination to devote his energy and abilities unsparringly toward the fair and unbiased solution of these problems as they arise from time to time.

The city of Torrance is not made up of any group or clique. The solution of all the city's problems, therefore, must be representative of the opinion of the great majority.

No man is infallible. No man can promise miracles. To the people of Torrance I send this message.

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GEORGE R. STEADMAN
(Long Term)

Editor Torrance Herald.
Before availing myself of the privilege accorded the candidates for trusteeship of the City of Torrance, by the Editor of the Torrance Herald, I wish to express my appreciation of the courtesy extended me, and the opportunity it gives me to state the platform upon which I am running as a candidate for City Trustee.

My platform, good people of Torrance, is this: I stand for organized government, "of the people, by the people, for the people," uncontrolled by special interests, or by any private or public organization, and should I be elected, I shall go into office as a representative of all the people, and shall weigh and consider affairs of municipal interest with an absolutely unbiased mind, remembering always to accord to you, ladies and gentlemen, the courtesy to which you are entitled.

For the benefit of those who may wish to know something of my history, I am an American, was born in Montana, and have lived in California about sixteen years. I first came to Torrance in May, 1920, as Engineer for the Pacific Electric Railway Company, and am still serving in that capacity. I am a resident.

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LEE R. TAYLOR
(Long Term)

Lee R. Taylor for Trustee of the City of Torrance.
As has been heretofore announced, I am a candidate for the office of Trustee of the City of Torrance, four-year term. Not through my own desire, or to gratify personal ambition, did the fact of my candidacy come about; but as the result of the wishes of a group of residents, property owners and voters of this city—members of Torrance Freeholders' League. Those good persons apparently believe me qualified to fill, and discharge in proper manner the duties of, that very important office. If a sufficient number of the other voters of Torrance have formed, or can be induced to form, a like opinion as to my qualifications, and they desire to be represented on the Board by one so equipped, my election seems assured. If you voters of Torrance have not that faith in me, sincerely, then, by preference—my advice, even—is that you elect another to serve you, not me.

My name is slated with those of two other good residents and property owners of Torrance, George R. Steadman and Charles Elman. While I respectfully solicit the vote of every registered voter of

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JOHN S. TORRENCE
(Long Term)

Editor Torrance Herald.
Dear Sir: In response to your invitation extended to the various candidates to make a statement to the public through the medium of your valued paper, will state that Justice, Progress, Economy and Fair Play sum up the substance of my platform. Justice to one and all, with due regard to the majesty of the law.

Progress in all that the word implies.

The upbuilding of our city, the fostering of industry.

Helping our community to become such a desirable spot that not only will it attract the attention of the outside world to our fair city, but will so impress us with its own importance and its prospects that we will desire no other home than Torrance.

Economy in that every effort will be made to curtail waste and needless expenditures.

To try to accomplish for the future things that will leave no regret for past performances.

Fair Play: By giving each and every one the opportunity to meet on neutral ground and on equal terms, where common sense and where common cause may have every opportunity of expression.

J. S. TORRENCE.

ROBERT J. DEININGER
(Short Term)

I submit herewith my ideas concerning city departments and city affairs:

Police and Fire Departments
The safety of the city depends on the efficiency of these two branches of our municipal government. It is the function of the police department to see that all ordinances are enforced, to protect life and property, and to keep public order. It is the function of the board of trustees to see that these functions are observed to the letter. Our volunteer fire department is unexcelled in a city this size. It should be kept so. The cost of an adequate fire department is saved several times in reduced fire insurance rates.

Street Department and Engineering
With Torrance growing so rapidly this department is one of our most important. It is charged with the duty of maintaining city streets and of recommending specifications for proposed improvements. It supervises all work let out on contract. We are fortunate indeed in having the services of J. J. Jessup as city engineer and of William Gascoigne.

I believe that new improvements should be put in at the request of citizens.

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WILLIAM T. KLUSMAN
(Short Term)

The Editor of the Torrance Herald has requested me to set before the citizens, property owners and voters of Torrance the foundation or platform on which I am running for the office of City Trustee.

Torrance, up to the present time, is strictly an industrial city, and therefore to a large extent a workingmen's town. It is regrettable that not more working people, who are employed in the different shops and factories, do not live in Torrance and own their homes in this city. There must be an obvious reason for such a condition. It is not my aim to discourse upon the various reasons for such a condition, but to use the aforesaid to bring before the prospective voters what can be done to correct such, and that is and has been my political platform, from the time that Torrance was incorporated, and that is my platform now. Torrance needs a municipal government that will encourage home building by the working people.

Torrance has a municipal government that caters to the speculators and investors, which raises the value of property to such

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TO DRILL ON P. B. AREA AGAIN

Edens Re-Leases 106 Acres In Torrance Industrial Tract

R. W. Edens, president of the Fortuna Oil company, the indomitable wildcatter who brought in the discovery wells on the old Redondo road, in Lomita, and who stuck to the old Peterson-Barker well like the proverbial puppy to the root, is so convinced commercial production is possible in the Torrance Industrial tract, north and east of the Union Tool company plant, that he has re-leased 106 acres in that territory and will drill a new wildcat thereon within sixty days.

The new well will be drilled about 400 feet east of the location of the old Peterson-Barker well, according to Edens.

The big community lease which Mr. Edens has just closed in the name of the Fortuna Oil company includes all of the acreage held by the former Peterson-Barker syndicate except that held by the Dominguez Land company. Part of the land in the new lease is east of the slough.

In announcing the closing of the new lease Mr. Edens said: "I have always been convinced that commercial production in this territory is possible. The hole in the old Peterson-Barker well was not the best that was ever drilled. We were unable to shut off the water and had to abandon the well. I am not looking for big production on wells of the gusher variety, but I firmly believe that the Peterson-Barker did not constitute a final test of the property. I believe a well drilled well on the property will make between 300 and 500 barrels of oil a day. We will start drilling in sixty days."

Miss Helen Neill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Neill, has returned to Mills college, at Oakland, after a few days' vacation at her home here.

ACCIDENTS IN FIELD INJURE FIVE WORKERS

Nephew Of "Tuck" Edens Hurt When Elevator Breaks

Five men were injured, one of them seriously, by accidents in the oil field, this week.

Russell Edens of the R. K. Drilling company, nephew of "Tuck" Edens, well known president of the Fortuna Oil company, was severely hurt Tuesday afternoon when the elevator on the Edens well at Eshelman and Pine street broke, while the crew was pulling out drill pipe. Edens' collar bone, left wrist and left ankle were broken and he sustained severe lacerations on the face. He was treated at the emergency hospital on Narbonne avenue, where physicians fear that he may have been injured internally.

E. A. Thompson and J. P. Connor of Long Beach were severely burned when a leak in a gas main in Pennsylvania avenue ignited Wednesday. Connor, employe of the Fred B. Foster interests, and Thompson, employe of the White Line Oil and Refining company, were repairing a gas main when the fumes ignited from a nearby flame. The men suffered severe burns on the face and neck. The left hand of each man was most seriously burned.

George King of Brea, employe of the Speed and Service Truck company, sustained a smashed foot when a drill pipe which he was unloading fell to the ground.

J. N. Ashworth of the Petroleum Securities company suffered painful injury in the same manner. Almost every bone in his left foot was fractured.

State officials are now operating daily in the field in the interests of safety. Operators are being induced to utilize all available safety appliances.

POLICEMEN'S BALL

Two regular policemen and several extra plain-clothes men will be on duty in the city during the Policemen's First Annual Ball Saturday night. Chief Anderson announced today. The city will not be without adequate police protection during the dance, according to the chief.

Observations

Western Avenue Goes Through—Other Highways Now Call for Attention—Two Scouts Will Get Eagle Badges

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

AT last, after long years of effort, contention, strife, pleading with the board of supervisors, proposed bond issues and what not, Western avenue is about to become a through highway from the San Fernando valley to the harbor at San Pedro.

In the history of this district no more important events have ever taken place than the signing of the contracts by the county of Los Angeles and the city of Torrance for the paving of this important highway.

The county has awarded the contract for paving of the strip from the northern limits of Torrance to the end of the present pavement, including that portion of the artery which lies in the city of Los Angeles.

The city of Torrance has signed a contract with H. G. Feraud for the paving of the highway to the northern limits of the incorporated area.

The county has advertised for bids for the pavement which will connect the highway, as it runs through Lomita, over the Palos Verdes hills to San Pedro.

This series of events means untold advantage to Torrance, to Lomita, to Harbor City and to Wilmington.

It is not necessary to recount those advantages. Every person who thinks at all knows that "progress halts where the pavement ends," as our advertising manager once aptly stated it. And all thinking persons, likewise, realize that with traffic comes increased business, increased property values, and a strong impetus to growth.

Within a few months traffic will be running over Western avenue, through Torrance and Lomita and either to San Pedro, Wilmington or Long Beach. Motorists who travel frequently from the Hollywood district, from the great San Fernando valley to Long Beach or San Pedro will come over Western avenue as the most direct route. Traffic from the harbor and Long Beach, headed for Hollywood or the valley, will use Western avenue. Residents of San Pedro, bound for Los Angeles, will come through this district over the new highway.

The culmination of the long and tireless efforts of individuals and civic organizations to get Western avenue paved through has been rewarded. The success of this constant hammering proves again that anything worth getting is worth going after hard and strong, without regard to setbacks and obstacles.

NOW that Western avenue as a through paved highway is assured, it behooves the various communities to direct their energies to other problems.

Torrance should now direct its efforts to getting Carson street paved: first to Harbor boulevard, then to Long Beach boulevard, and then on to Orange county. This program is contemplated by the Harbor District Chamber of Commerce, the regional planning commission, and other agencies. Civic bodies in Torrance should "keep hammering," just as they have done in the case of Western avenue.

Another matter of moment must be considered soon. When Western avenue is completed the traffic over Arlington and Narbonne avenue will be too great for the present width of the highway south of Plaza del Amo. It is reported that land has already been dedicated by many property owners in Lomita for the widening of the street as far south as Acacia street.

The large amount of oil field traffic on Narbonne avenue and South Arlington street (both of which will soon be named Western avenue) already keeps the highway in a congested condition. Unless

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Briney Recommends Court Decision On Steadman Petition

City Clerk A. H. Bartlett telephoned The Herald from Los Angeles this morning that George H. Steadman had secured a writ of mandamus compelling the clerk to place his name on the ballot for the election of April 14. The application for the writ was not contested by City Attorney P. G. Briney, who advised Steadman to apply for it in order to protect himself as well as to avoid the possibility of a contested election.

In order to protect the city of Torrance from the possibility of a contested election, City Attorney Briney has requested George R. Steadman to apply to the courts for a writ of mandamus compelling the city clerk to place his (Steadman's) name on the ballot as candidate for city trustee at the election of Monday, April 14.

Steadman's petition was made out by the circulator for "George R. Steadman" instead of for George R. Steadman. The city attorney at first believed that it would be permissible to place Steadman's name on the ballot correctly, but, foreseeing the possibility of a contested election, requested the candidate to apply for the mandamus writ.

"We will not contest the issuance of the writ," said the city attorney today. "But I believe Mr. Steadman, for his own protection, should take the matter before the courts. If the city clerk is commanded by a court of law to place Mr. Steadman's name on the ballot, there will be no possibility of a contest of the election."

People Are Urged To Observe Rules Of L. A. Quarantine

Secretary Gadeky of the Chamber of Commerce attended a meeting of Southern California C. of C. executives at Los Angeles Wednesday, held for the purpose of impressing on the various communities the necessity of observance of the quarantine for the hoof and mouth disease.

Western Avenue Contract Signed

The contract between the city of Torrance and H. G. Feraud for the paving of Western avenue to the northern Torrance limits was signed Wednesday afternoon. Work on the pavement will start in a few days.

BIG RALLY SET FOR APR. 10

Progressive Club Invites Public to Parade And Meeting

Plans for a big Progress club parade and political rally, to which the general public will be invited, were announced at the Progress club meeting at the Methodist church last night. The torch-light procession, headed by the G. A. R. Five and Drum Corps of Long Beach, in uniform, will form opposite the First National bank, Sartori and Marcelina streets, at 7 o'clock Thursday night, April 10. The parade will proceed through the residence district and end at Legion hall, where out-of-town speakers will address the rally. Progress club candidates will speak, outlining their platforms to the public.

The Progress club campaign committee last night predicted an overwhelming victory for the club's ticket at the polls on April 14.

Capt. Louis Hanson of San Pedro spoke. He praised the club for "its progressive part in the affairs of this rapidly growing city." He laid especial stress on the great advantages to Torrance of Western avenue, paved from the mountains to the sea.

"Your city, he said," is just far enough from the harbor to enjoy a tremendous industrial growth. I confidently expect to see Torrance the center of a vast industrial district. The manner in which you have hammered away at Western avenue for years ought to serve as an example for other communities."

EXCHANGE COMPLIMENTS

The Long Beach Chamber of Commerce has made the Torrance Chamber of Commerce an honorary member. The directors of the Torrance chamber instructed Secretary Gadeky to return the compliment.