

FOURTEENTH YEAR—No. 27

Political developments: The Democrats nominate Al Smith for president and Senator Robinson of Arkansas for vice president.

Secretary of the Interior Hubert Work, newly elected chairman of the Republican national committee visits President Coolidge at Brule, Wis., hands in his resignation from the cabinet, announces that the president will assist in the Hoover campaign without taking the stump.

Secretary Hoover consults with Republican leaders, shaping his campaign. He will visit the president at Brule and resign from the cabinet, then speed west on a special train for his home in Palo Alto, where he will conduct the campaign largely over the radio.

Carmel Thompson, militant opponent of Herbert Hoover at the Ohio primaries notifies the nominees that he will support him and offers his personal services for the Hoover campaign in Ohio.

In Texas prominent Democrats seek to organize a bolt for their party, but Dan Moody, their new president, announces that he will support Smith.

In New York Al Smith consults with Democratic leaders, shaping his campaign. Smith is the type who likes to carry the fight to the people. His chief asset as a vote-getter is personal magnetism. He will therefore attack the country after a fashion, making about sixteen speeches in various parts of the land. The Smith addresses, it is reported, will deal with constructive principles rather than attacks upon the Republicans.

The two big parties will swing into the real action of the fray after Labor Day. Until that time they will be doing little except collecting funds to finance the contest and squaring away for the stiff battle to follow.

In the most orderly election held in Mexico in years voters of the neighboring republic elected Obregon for president. Two of Obregon's chief opponents were assassinated several months ago. Obregon's election was unopposed.

The calm of peace has replaced the gigantic economic war between Standard Oil interests and the Royal Dutch Shell combination of Great Britain and Holland. The Standard oil has been waging about the world for more than a generation broke out with violence nine months ago between Standard companies were fighting to buy oil from Russia. The small group insisted that the American markets of Europe and Asia had no right to purchase Russian oil. Sir Henri Deterding, British titled Dutchman attacked Standard vigorously, contending that the oil which Standard was buying from Russia came from fields rightfully owned by Shell and other companies in company with the Soviet at the time of the revolution. The true basis of Deterding's claim, however, was the fact that Standard was buying Russian oil at a price which would enable the American organization to undersell Royal Dutch Shell in her own markets of Europe and Asia. The battle waged furiously, Standard cut prices in India, Shell cut still more, Standard retaliated with a still deeper reduction. The price war swept over the markets of the Near East and Asia. Now the battle has moved to draw Standard will continue to buy Russian oil but acquiesces in the Royal Dutch Shell contention against confiscation of Russian fields by the Soviet. The price war is over. What secret agreements between the companies were made were not announced.

Avery Hopwood, noted playwright, co-author of "The Bat," author of "Fair and Warmer" and "The Gold Diggers" was swimming at Nice. He swam away from his convey boat, was seized with cramps, drowned.

Ever since the United States lines, operating such great liners as the Leviathan, the George Washington and others sent the American flag over the Atlantic in competition with British-owned companies, propaganda against the American line has been steady and subtle. Articles in the Saturday Evening Post bared this fact about two years ago. Now comes Commodore Harold Cunningham, commander of the Leviathan with the explosive declaration that the British announcement of a \$500,000 theft from Leviathan mail bags was an exaggerated concoction of Scotland Yard sent forth to injure the reputation of the American line as an official carrier of mail. The commodore declared that the theft from the mail aggregated less than \$8,000, that British statements to the effect that the robbery occurred aboard the ship were pure fabrications, a contention which he proved to the satisfaction of newspapermen in New York by showing them the safeboxes placed over mail by the company.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Eby attended a family reunion at Point Firmin last Sunday. About 85 relatives of the Galahan family were present from this vicinity, Sacramento, Kansas City and Honolulu.

Council to Select New Committee on Lighting Estimates

Midnight Action in Effort to Save Advantage of Pre-Bidding Plan and Insure Illumination for City

Oratory, hot air, sarcasm, unseemly motions, defeated amendments to motions, caustic remarks by property-owners, withering satire of inspired lighting company salesmen—these and more made a three-ring circus of the Torrance council meeting Tuesday night and after it was all over, after most of the crowd had departed for home shortly before midnight a resolution passed the council by a vote of 3 to 2 putting the question of ornamental lights for Torrance exactly where it was two months ago.

Buffeted by waves of conflicting popular opinion and caught in the rip-tides of high-powered sales talks, the council, striving in various directions to secure lights for Torrance called a recess about 11:30 to talk the matter over. When they returned Councilman Inman moved that a new committee of seven be appointed by the council to receive amended guaranteed estimates from the various companies and report them to the council at a later date. As midnight approached an attempt was made to select the committee, but as any action taken after the stroke of 12 would have been taken on a legal holiday and therefore be illegal the committee appointment was postponed to some indefinite date in the future.

Two Vote No Councilman Inman, Wolfe and Maxwell voted for the motion. Mayor Dennis and Councilman Raymond voted against it. This action was taken after four long and heated hours of argument—argument which culminated finally in a veritable barrage of motions by councilmen, none of which was passed.

It was a compromise made by worn-out men, an element here contented to save something of the shrewdly calculated plan of pre-estimating by which Torrance hoped to secure lights at low cost under competitive conditions. It was necessary because the council was unable to reach an agreement on any type of proposal.

The council followed defeat of City Engineer Leonard's recommendation that King posts at \$111,571 be selected by the council and submitted to the people for approval by petition. At the close of an exhaustive report by the engineer the meeting was adjourned by the council. Citizens, lighting company salesmen joined in the stormy debate. In the midst of the barrage of words a letter from the Westinghouse Company was read. This letter, directed to the council, declared that Westinghouse would reduce its estimate for the Torrance installation from \$123,582.90 to \$114,185.40. The King estimate was \$111,571. Mayor Dennis and City Engineer Leonard declared that the council could not accept any amended estimate such as the Westinghouse company proposed. Several citizens pointed out that if one company could reduce its price by \$9,000 others, in the heat of competition, might be able to do likewise and urged that the whole question be held in abeyance and amended bids received.

W. Harold Kingsley of the special committee insisted that the board should consider the reduced estimate. He explained that the committee had tried at all times to secure lower prices and that lower prices had been received from two companies. "If Torrance can save a few thousand dollars, by all means we should do so. I have an idea that still lower prices may be obtained and it would be poor business judgment if we did not try to get them."

Raymond Moves As the debate was going on Councilman Raymond moved that the engineer's recommendation be approved, that the council adopt the King post proposal and submit it to the people by petition. Councilman Maxwell seconded the motion. Councilman Inman leaped to his feet with the statement that if the people were to be consulted through the medium of a petition they should be allowed to register their approval not of just one type but of three—Union Metal Company, Westinghouse and King. (The Union Metal proposal under consideration was for \$105,984.20). Mr. Inman moved that the council should accept the amendment. Then Councilman Maxwell withdrew his second to the original motion. Councilman Inman then moved that the lighting question be referred to the people by petition, allowing them to choose among the three types of posts. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. It was defeated 3 to 2, Councilman Dennis and Maxwell and Raymond voting in the negative.

Wolfe Makes Motion Councilman Wolfe then moved that all estimates of all companies be rejected and the engineer be authorized to receive new guaranteed estimates to be opened on July 17. This motion was not seconded because City Engineer Leonard declared that the council could not legally receive such pre-estimates.

Once more the debate was taken up on the floor and the whole question gone over again. Finally the council, irrevocably deadlocked, left the question of lights and turned to routine business. Then a recess was taken. Most of the crowd retired. After the recess the action calling for the appointment of a new committee was taken and after the hour of midnight had passed the council adjourned.

The largest and most intensely interested crowd that ever attended a council meeting in Torrance was on hand early Tuesday night. The council had sent out a notice to all citizens asking them to attend and hear City Engineer Leonard's recommendation. The response brought such a throng that many could not gain entrance to the council chamber. All the aisles were crowded and a crush jockeyed for position in every doorway.

LIGHTING COMMITTEE SAVED CITY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS SAYS COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION

Calling attention of the public to the fact that the work of the mayor's special lighting committee saved the people of Torrance, thousands of dollars and praising that group for its "broadmindedness" and "excellent" work, the council Tuesday night passed the following resolution:

Whereas, Mayor Dennis acting in accordance with a resolution from this council, appointed, a committee of our fellow citizens to secure guaranteed estimates of all types of lighting installations for the city of Torrance under a plan of pre-bidding which would guarantee competition before any type of installation was specified, and to make a recommendation to this council after all bids had been studied,

And Whereas, this committee did so receive these estimates and study them carefully and conscientiously so that the people of Torrance might receive the greatest value per dollar of expenditure for a lighting system,

And Whereas, this committee was composed of the following citizens, with Mayor Dennis as chairman: George W. Neill, Dr. George P. Shidler, B. C. Buxton, J. C. Smith, George Proctor (alternate) and W. Harold Kingsley,

And Be It Further Resolved that the committee be complimented for its spirit of co-operation with the council and its unsolicited determination to avoid a disagreement which might have frustrated the desire of the citizenry for lights in the city of Torrance. And Be It Further Resolved, that this resolution be spread upon the records of the City of Torrance.

Flower Show on First National July 13 and 14 Growth Shown

First Annual Event to Beautify City Sponsored by Legion

The first annual flower show of Torrance, sponsored by the Bert S. Crossland Post of the American Legion will be held Friday and Saturday, July 13 and 14, in the Chamber of Commerce building on El Prado.

The growth of Torrance measured in terms of increased wealth is eloquently told in a story of figures prepared by the First National Bank from their financial statements of Aug. 9, 1913 and that of June 13, 1928.

In the fifteen years covered by that time which has elapsed between the two statements a tremendous growth has been recorded. In 1913 loans and discounts stood at \$27,825. On June 30, 1928 they aggregated \$600,358.

Other comparisons shown by the two statements follow:

Table with 2 columns: 1913 and 1928. Rows include U. S. Bonds and securities owned, Total resources, Capital Stock, Surplus fund, Individual deposits, Check, Total demand deposits, Savings deposits, Postal savings deposits, Total of time deposits.

Teal Takes Place of Carl L. Hyde

Carl L. Hyde, secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce who was granted a 60 day leave of absence last week has been selected to manage the pre-military campaign of Supervisor McClellan, and is now actively at work at the job.

Wilfred Teal, a resident of Torrance for many years, has been engaged to fill the vacancy caused by the temporary absence of Mr. Hyde.

What's On In Torrance

- Tonight, July 5—Regular meeting Lutheran Ladies' Aid, W. R. C., Central Evangelical Guild, Episcopal Ladies Guild. Friday, July 6—Regular meetings Torrance Relief, Mothers' Educational Center. Saturday, July 7—Regular meeting Job's Daughters. Sunday, July 8—Services in all churches. Monday, July 9—Directors' meeting, C. of C. Public invited. Tuesday, July 10—Regular meetings I. O. O. F., American Legion, K. of C., Rotary Annex, W. B. A. Wednesday, July 11—Regular meetings Masons, Moose, Rebekahs, Missionary Society and Christian Church Council. Thursday, July 12—Regular meeting O. E. S.

FIRECRACKER STARTS BLAZE A firecracker thrown into a rubbish can by a boy Tuesday set fire to the garage in the rear of the house at 1720 Gramercy avenue. The department extinguished the blaze after damage of about \$25 had been done.

Observations

Hoover and Smith—Two Diametrically Opposed Types —The Wet and Dry Issue—A Hot Campaign Is in Store for the Country

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

THE shouting and hullabaloo are over. The conventions have adjourned. The battery men are busy re-charging tired-out batteries. The delegates have gone home, tired and hoarse.

The battle lines are drawn. Leading the forces of the G. O. P. are Herbert Clark Hoover, secretary of commerce and Senator Curtis of Kansas, heading the Bourbon minions are Gov. Alfred Emanuel Smith of New York and Senator Robinson of Arkansas.

For the first time in the history of American politics a Republican nominee named on the first ballot opposes a Democratic candidate for President who also was chosen on the initial roll call.

BOTH candidates have long been in the public eye. Neither is a Harding. Neither is a Davis or a Cox. Both have reached prominence in American life. Therefore each has his staunch supporters, each his bitter enemies. The very fact that few men are luke-warm about either Hoover or Smith guarantees that the campaign will be one of the warmest since Dad used to march up and down the street with his host of partisan colleagues bearing a blazing torch.

AS to what may be considered the major issues of the campaign, the platforms of both parties are a bit hazy. Both promise relief to the farmers. Neither is dangerously specific on this debatable subject. Both pledge that the machinery of government shall be directed to the enforcement of the eighteenth amendment. The Republican platform purports to that amendment shall also be enforced. The Republican dry plank does not mention the Volstead act either by name or inference. The Democratic plank refers to it as "pursuant legislation."

HERBERT HOOVER and Al Smith are both definitely on record as favoring law enforcement. That is natural. Either if elected would have to take a high oath to enforce the constitution. Smith however favors modification of the prohibition law. In a telegram to the Democratic convention he said so clearly and directly.

Hoover, on the other hand, is not on record regarding the mooted subject of modification. In his reply to the Borah questionnaire before his nomination, the secretary of commerce stood stewart for enforcement, but adroitly evaded the direct question as to his stand on changing the prohibition law.

To persons who look upon prohibition as the chief issue of the campaign, however, those who are dry will vote for Hoover and the wets for Smith.

AS regards farm relief it appears at this writing that the facticians of the G. O. P. will see to it that none of the farm state electoral votes is won over by the Bourbons. They are clever strategists, those Republicans. Farm relief was a major issue in 1924, but somehow or other the price of wheat soared skyward just prior to the November balloting. A stroke of Republican good fortune, you think? Perhaps. But more decidedly, perhaps not.

Those who vote not for almost meaningless platforms which evade a direct statement on every really important issue, but who cast their ballots for the man rather than for the party have a choice between a picturesque governor of a great state, an expert in the intricate game of politics, and a self-made statesman who has served his country in high office and who is reputed to know little of practical politics.

ON the one hand is Smith, personally magnetic, adroit, skilful, versed in political tactics and the way to win popular acclaim. On the other hand is Hoover, less personable than Smith, less versed in the magic of winning men by individual magnetism, but a great executive, tried and found akin to general business. These two men have held elective public office for years.

On the other hand is Hoover who made mining and business his task, but who stepped into public life during the great war to perform a great task, but who has never in his life been elected to any office by popular vote. A career politician against a novice at that game; but a lesser luminary in world affairs against a great star.

BEFORE the sun goes down on next November 4 much will have transpired, much that is bitter, much that is rooted in the foul soil of hatred, much that will make enemies of friends, friends of former enemies. Many men and women will vote against Smith because he is Catholic. Many more will vote for him because he is. Many will vote for Smith because he is a wet. Many will not for the same reason. Many will vote for Hoover because of his long record of great deeds. Many will vote against him because in the performance of those duties he has necessarily stepped on toes.

The most deep-rooted prejudices of the race are issues in the campaign. To admit that is not to declare that such prejudices should exist. The bare fact is that they do and will. Religion, that age-old struggle between liberals and conservatives, will crown one another over the American stage from this date forward.

IN such a situation logic does not always prevail. Long-established prejudices give way but slowly before the incursions of reason. Consider the situation of the hot-blooded Southerner, a staunch unwavering Democrat because of the color question, but a stalwart dry for the very same reason. He must choose between voting for a Republican whose predecessors have, to his disgust, frequently appointed negroes to public office in order to win the black vote of the north and a Democrat who is a wet. He must choose between a man who was nominated largely because the negro votes from the South voted for him at Kansas City and a man who wants the Volstead act modified. And the Southerner is dry because prohibition helps him keep the negro under control. Not an easy choice in a region where the negro question is at the bottom of all public policy, and where men take their Democracy like a religion.

THE race is not yet run nor won. A study of the electoral votes will convince anyone that either Smith or Hoover may be elected. The campaign will wage most intensely in the border states of the South, in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois in the grain belt. If he carries New York and New Jersey, which is probably all Smith will need to win, the election will be a foregone conclusion. The electoral votes of a handful of doubtful states. The Republicans know this. They know that Hoover, nominated, great man though he be, is not yet elected. The Democrats, out of office since Wilson, see victory within their grasp. The eagles of hope perch on their battle-flags.

WHEREFORE—and you may take it without reservation—there's more or less United States of America are going to witness what old-timers agree will be one of the hottest campaigns since William Jennings Bryan stumped the country for free silver. And that friends, was a long, long time ago as the life of a voter runs.

TIE FOR TOP PLACE U. T. CO. TEAM BEATEN The Torrance baseball crew, did Manager Ed Tansey a favor last Sunday when they beat Hawthorne 5 to 2 in 10 innings and stepped up into a tie for first place in the fast Los Angeles County League. Next Sunday the boys will travel over to Pomona to play the league outfit there.

Spud Murphy, active manager of the Union Tool Indiv team was the butt of many kidding remarks Monday night when his team, leaders in the industrial league bowed in defeat to the Pacific Electric crew. The score—read this Spud—was 20 to 6. Mr. Murphy has not been seen on the streets of the city since.

Telephone Co. Open Fine New Exchange Bldg.

Growth from 16 Phones in 1914 to 725 Now

Telephone service here will be cut over to the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company's new central office at 1366 Sartori street, Saturday. This will mark the completion of Torrance's latest public utility project which has been in preparation for the last ten months, according to Fred W. Smith, district manager of the telephone company.

The new plant, including the building, central office equipment and outside plant extensions has been constructed so as to provide for the telephone needs of Torrance for a number of years, according to Mr. Smith. The growth of this community has made the new plant necessary. In 1914 there were sixteen telephones in Torrance; ten years ago there were 69. Today the telephone company is furnishing service by interconnection of more than 725 telephones.

Of brick construction, one story in height, the new building follows modern renaissance treatment of Spanish architecture and is finished in stucco with mission tile roof. The windows on the street front are set in arched openings with deep reveals, typical of building of the Spanish character. The main entrance of the building is surmounted by a tile-roofed canopy supported by hand-hewn brackets. The vestibule and entrance is finished in stucco with a prominent and tile-floor laid in conventional design. According to Mr. Smith the entire building was so designed as to be an architectural as well as a utilitarian asset to the community.

The business office which will be open for the first time to the public Monday, July 9, is located in the front of the building. There will be no counters in the new building. Instead business transactions will be handled at individual desks where telephone company representatives will meet the public. According to Mr. Smith the elimination of the counters will add a personal touch to the company's business transactions.

Back of the business office is the operating room which includes a new fire alarm type of manual switchboard and a new chief operators' desk. This, with new associated equipment in the terminal room is expected to give residents here a communication center of the most modern type. In the operating room all calls will be handled by operators trained in the procedure of the manual system.

The terminal room adjacent to the operating room is the real heart and center of Torrance's communication system. It is here that every wire serving the Torrance exchange enters the building through a cable pit under the terminal room. Day and night someone is on duty in the terminal room watching that subscribers lines are kept in good condition. When trouble is reported the wire chief locates the difficulty as soon as possible in order that service may be resumed with the least possible delay. Associated with the equipment in the terminal room is the power plant and the storage battery.

A recreation room for the operators is located in the rear of the building and is furnished comfortably and contains cooling appliances and a library. A large yard which has been planted with shrubs will serve as an outdoor rest center for the operators and other telephone people employed on the premises.

Rotarians Will Have Big Outing

Rotarians and Rotary Anna and former members of the Rotary Club of Torrance and their wives will be guests of Mr. and Mrs. Warren W. Johnston at their ranch near Escondido over the weekend. Mr. Johnston who formerly was a Rotarian here will serve a barbecue Saturday evening. The entire party will stay at the ranch Saturday night, returning to Torrance Sunday.

Saturday afternoon new officers of Torrance will be installed. Dr. George P. Shidler, who has returned from the Rotary International convention at Minneapolis will take office as president of the club.

At the Rotary meeting last week Mrs. Elsie Teal Billini, who has played the piano at Rotary luncheons since the organization of the club in Torrance was presented with a travelling bag by the club. Duties in Los Angeles will prevent her from further attendance at Rotary here on Thursday. The gift was an expression of the club's appreciation of her service since the organization of Rotary in Torrance.

Guaranteed paid, \$2.65 million. Consolidated Lumber Co., Torrance, adv.