



Consolidated
Edition
Torrance Herald
and Lomita News

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LEGION POST INITIATES 18 AT PROGRAM

Entertainment and Dance Follow Dinner at Clubhouse

Eighteen new members were initiated in Bert S. Crossland post, No. 170, American Legion Tuesday evening following a dinner and program. The Legion auxiliary was present at the evening party. Following the ceremonies and entertainment, a dance was held, the music being furnished by a seven-piece orchestra.

Jack Gill, chairman of the entertainment committee, presented a number of humorous stories and recitations. Dr. Leakey, past commander of Post No. 243; and Bert Mannus, another past commander of the Owensmouth Legion post.

The new members of the post who were received Tuesday night were Harold G. Nelms, Harris Grotman, John H. Modisett, Edwin P. Arthur, Watson E. Antis, H. C. Hamler, Henry C. Barrington, Lucius M. Arnold, Ross P. McVickers, Fayette Garland, Walter K. Dobner, C. E. Marsteller, George H. Priest, Clarence Burnett, Mel Sodowsky, Raymond Coffin, J. Van and J. Jansen.

'Business is Better Than B. D.' Says Factory Executive

"We are completing a January business month that has been the best since last June when things went down all over the country. And what is still more important, we know that we are going to experience record-breaking business during the rest of the year."

That was Loren Wood speaking for the Coast Insulating Company of which he is president. Wood declared yesterday that the firm, which manufactures a unique form of insulating and sound-absorbing material, had just completed an order for the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios valued at approximately \$10,000.

Employers Move Men
"We shipped seven carloads of granulated mineral wool and two carloads of our 'All-Tite' silk blanket product to the M. G. M. studios for use in preparing sound motion picture stages," Wood stated.

At the present time, the Coast Insulating Company is employing about 25 men, more than an average force, in getting out an order for the Ford Motor Car Company at Long Beach, where the material will be used in the new Ford factory.

College President Guest of Youngs

Dr. H. C. Morrison, of Wilmore, Kentucky, president of Asbury College for 15 years; editor of the Pentecostal Herald magazine for 40 years, is the honored guest of Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Young this week. Dr. Morrison was president of the college when Rev. and Mrs. Young were students there. At that time a very close friendship was formed, and while separated for a number of years, their bonded guest renewals past time by spending a week in the city of Torrance.

On Thursday evening Rev. and Mrs. Young have invited more than 50 Asbury College graduates and friends who are living in and about Los Angeles to a dinner in honor of Dr. Morrison.

BILL THE BARBER SAYS

A London society finds that the average girl who leaves home is eighteen. No statistics are available but just offhand we would say the average girl who stays at home is eighty.

Need 20 Children For Kindergarten

Twenty more children are needed at the Torrance kindergarten. Parents who have children eligible to attend preliminary work in the elementary school here should make every effort tomorrow, Friday, or Monday to register them at Principal Bell's office.

Kindergarten instruction during the spring semester will start the children on their path to education. If you know anyone having a boy or girl ready for this class, tell them of the opening for at least 20 more children today.

Action Taken On New School and Junior College

Education Committee Before School Board Monday With Vital Matter

The request of Education committee of the Chamber of Commerce that the Board of Education of the Los Angeles city school system consider the erection of a brick building on the Fern avenue school site to replace the existing temporary wooden bungalows and to establish a trade school and junior college classes here is now being studied.

This was learned today on receipt of a letter to the Education committee from William M. Sheldon, secretary of the school executive board. Sheldon stated that at a meeting January 28, the Board of Education referred the matter to the committee of the whole and the following associates: Mrs. James Hitchcock, W. Rufus Page, Sam Levy and Carl Hyde.

TOM LIEB OF LOYOLA WILL SPEAK HERE

To Address Kiwanis Club at Last Noon Session Tomorrow

Tom Lieb, head coach at Loyola College and former assistant coach at Knute Rockne at Notre Dame, will be the guest of honor and principal speaker at the last noon meeting of the Torrance Kiwanis club tomorrow.

Beginning Monday evening, February 2, the service club will hold evening sessions weekly from 6:15 to 7:30 o'clock.

Lieb, who took Rockne's place in the fall of 1929 in guiding the destinies of the Ramblers' Irish to an undefeated season, will give a survey of the past grid season and is expected to devote part of his talk to the outlook for next fall. Paul Vonderahe will be chairman of the day.

Creating A Neighborly Feeling

That's the Duty of Mrs. Phoebe Milburn, Social Service Secretary, Whose Annual Report is on File Now

Although Mrs. Phoebe J. Milburn's official title is social service secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, a more correct designation would be the less formal description of "official city neighbor."

For Mrs. Milburn's duties, as depicted in her annual report now on file at the Chamber, consists mostly of "just being folks with newcomers to Torrance."

We learn that during the year 1930 she made 392 initial calls, 200 of which were personal visits at the homes of new residents where Mrs. Milburn extended a cordial welcome to the city to the occupants and urged them to call upon her or the Chamber of Commerce at any time. The remaining 192 visits were to places where the people were not at home, men were asleep or the parties had not yet moved into the house.

Keeps Mailing List
Two and sometimes three calls were necessary before Mrs. Milburn had actually contacted the newcomers. No record of these additional calls was made.

PRELIMINARY FOR MURDER CASE IS SET

Walteria Shooting Fray to Be Heard in Justice Court, Feb. 6

Two alleged hi-jackers or bandits held in connection with the murder of Carlisle Lord, Walteria resident, on the night of January 20, will have their preliminary hearing Friday morning, February 6, at 10 o'clock in Judge Dennis' justice court in Lomita.

They are Charles "Smiley" Moe and Roy R. Brown. Moe, whose nickname appeared inconsistent as he stood handcuffed in court Monday morning to hear the reading of the murder complaint against him, is charged jointly with Brown in the crime, but is not believed to have been the gunman who shot Lord.

Brown, a victim of the dynamite man's shooting ability, was not present in court Monday because his condition is still serious, according to physicians in the prisoner's ward at the Los Angeles General hospital. Brown is suspected of being the man who killed Lord. He will probably be brought to Lomita for arraignment about the middle of next week.

Identify Slain Bandit
Moe will be represented at the hearing by Charles T. Orblison, Los Angeles attorney. It is not known if Brown has engaged counsel to defend him.

Sheriff's office investigators have announced that they have partially identified the third member of the trio who were at Lord's home on the evening of the gun duel. This member, who was instantly killed by the Walteria man, is said to be Charles Owens of Strand, Okla., alias Joe Dennison and Joe Ward. He is believed to have been a member of a robbery and hi-jacking gang comprised of others now under arrest in connection with the death of Lord, according to Captain Bright of the sheriff's homicide squad.

Bright has in his possession a gun believed to have been used in the fatal shooting of Lord. The weapon was found by a passer-by along the road leading from Walteria to Lomita. A second gun is being sought by deputy sheriffs in the same vicinity on the assumption that the fleeing bandits disposed of both of their weapons in the same manner.

The inquest Friday morning on the death of the Walteria man resulted in the verdict that he met his death by "gunshot wound; homicidal." At the Stone and Myers funeral parlors the inquest by the death of the alleged hi-jacker Owens resulted in the verdict, "died from gunshot wound."

Former Senator to Address Clubwomen

Charles W. Lyon, former state senator from this district, will speak before the Women's club on various phases of legislation as it affects club women, February 4. Mrs. C. G. Gutter, music chairman, has secured Mrs. Anne Mersery, who will give a group of piano numbers. Mrs. Mersery appeared before the club last year. All luncheon reservations must be in by Monday noon.

And the Teachers

Now if something can be done to persuade the non-resident teachers in Torrance schools to live here, we'll

With unemployment conditions growing worse and vacancies in income property increasing, Torrance has at last awakened to the fact that she is entitled to considerable support from the county of Los Angeles in return for the large contribution in tax money which this city makes to the county treasury.

Two meetings during the past week proved conclusively that Torrance is no longer going to give much and receive little in return, but is determined to demand that a just and fair share of the enormous tax levy made by the county is returned to this city and its development.

The first of these meetings was held last Thursday evening when 25 Torrance men met with Supervisor Quinn, County Auditor Payne, and a representative of the county road department. Plain words were spoken, politely, but frankly. Rufus Page, president of the Chamber of Commerce, acted as chairman of the meeting. He served notice to the county officials in his opening remarks that the gathering wasn't going to be any love feast, when he said: "For the past eight years we have been living on promises of aid from the county for our various community problems. But we are tired of living on promises. We want something we can use and money we can spend."

The health center, justice court building, unemployment, relief work, Alondra Park improvement, and county aid in the construction of major highways in and near Torrance were discussed for four hours. County officials were under fire from every member of the City Council and every director of the Chamber of Commerce, as well as a few other civic leaders. A definite promise was secured from Supervisor Quinn that the county would pay 40 per cent of the cost of a 30-foot strip on any major highway that the city of Torrance was ready to go ahead with.

We Want What We Pay For!

County Aid for Community Development—Highways— A New Fern Street School—All School Teachers Residents of Torrance—Action Demanded by Civic Bodies

By GROVER C. WHYTE

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This is the first definite offer which we have received from the county government officials as to what we can depend upon in the way of aid in highway development. We hope that the City Council will lose no time in authorizing the construction of important highways so we can "cash in" on Quinn's proposition. While less definite answers were given to other questions asked by Torrance men, county officials went away from the meeting with a much clearer idea of what this community desires and with the full assurance that we are going to keep up the fight until we get what we are justly entitled to receive. Much good should come out of this meeting.

Another instance of the firm stand that the Chamber of Commerce is making in demanding that Torrance get its share of county funds occurred Monday evening this week, when a committee of three chamber directors, headed by George W. Neill, appeared before the Los Angeles Board of Education, and frankly showed that body that it collected exactly \$129,374.80 MORE from the Torrance school district in taxes last year than it spent here. The Torrance men went to the school board meeting fully prepared with facts and figures to substantiate their demand for a modern new elementary school building on the Fern street site to replace the present wooden shacks.

With Mr. Neill were W. Rufus Page, president of the chamber; Carl Hyde, executive secretary, and Sam Levy. Page, Hyde and Levy did most of the talking. They presented the deplorable conditions at the Fern street school, where sessions are held in shacks moved over from El Segundo.

The Torrance school district has an assessed valuation of \$22,205,525, which at the last year's school district tax rate of \$1.61 per \$100 valuation, amounts to \$357,506.95. To this money collected by the Los Angeles school board was added revenue from the state, which was \$38,967.99, making a total tax payment of \$396,474.94. Expenditures on elementary schools in the Torrance district last year amounted to \$100,299.88; on the high school, \$156,568.07; and on the evening school \$10,232.19. These make a total expenditure by the Los Angeles board in the Torrance district of \$267,100.14, or exactly \$129,374.80 LESS than Torrance tax payers contributed to the school fund. With this astonishing discrepancy in our favor, we are certainly in a position to demand a new school on the Fern street site, and while no definite commitment was made by the Los Angeles board, its president said that in the past he had found the requests of Torrance delegations meritorious, and it is the opinion of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce committee that a fine new brick elementary school will be erected on the Fern street site in the near future.

But the committee did not stop with a request for an elementary school. It urged the early construction of a modern trades school, similar to the famous Frank Wiggins institution, where sons and daughters of Torrance workers may prepare themselves for a gainful livelihood. That's good work, and the members of the committee deserve the thanks of every Torrance resident.

And the Teachers
Now if something can be done to persuade the non-resident teachers in Torrance schools to live here, we'll

CHANCE SEEN FOR FEDERAL OFFICE HERE

Postoffice Lease Expires Dec. 1; More Room Is Necessary

If all civic organizations in the city get behind the movement for a Federal building for Torrance now, there is a good possibility that such a structure may be authorized by the Postoffice department.

This was seen in the recent letters to Postmaster Alfred Gourdier from Joe Crall, congressman, and John W. Philly, fourth assistant postmaster general.

Larger quarters are needed by the local postoffice, and an inspector from the postoffice department is expected to visit Torrance in the near future to take up the matter of advertising for suitable proposals for offices to be ready for occupancy on December 1, next, when the present lease of the postoffice on Marcellina avenue expires.

Crall favors building "We are experiencing a congested condition at the postoffice at all times now and are in serious need of additional space. I believe we are practically assured of getting larger quarters after December 1, but I think there is a chance that Torrance can get a separate Federal building if the organizations here take up the matter with Congressman Crall and the Postoffice department."

In a recent statement from the Postoffice department at Washington, D. C., the allotment of \$55,000,000 to each state for Federal buildings was announced. This, it was explained, could be expended now to relieve unemployment. Crall is understood to be in favor of constructing a Federal building here.

The Torrance postoffice receipts for 1930 were \$29,243.59 or only .06 per cent less than 1929, according to Postmaster Gourdier. This is considered unusually good in view of the 1930 depression.

Auto Electrics Class to Start

Special Women's Class to Study Automobiles

Each Tuesday evening for five weeks the Torrance Evening high school is privileged to have O. B. York, auto electrician, as instructor. York is in the trade and special arrangements have been made by the State Department of Vocational Education for him to give a short course in Auto Electrics at the local school. Anyone who cares to know anything about electricity, and especially as applied to automobiles can hardly afford to miss this series of lessons given every Tuesday at 7 p. m. There is no charge and no textbooks.

Chief Calder Traps City Worker

Investigation Leads to Source of Fraudulent Actions on Part of Veteran Torrance Employee

Too much liquid evidence convicted a veteran city employe this week of a serious crime.

For years this employe has been guilty of taking advantage of the city of Torrance, and for an extensive investigation, led by Police Chief M. Calder, which uncovered said employe's duplicity, would have cost the city many dollars.

As result of Chief Calder's probe, this afore-mentioned employe has been given an opportunity to "go straight." In making his report, Calder did not say anything about punishment, restitution or dismissal. The chief merely declared: "It's alright now."

"Measuring Out Justice"
Suspicion was cast on the defrauding employe when in open council meeting, the statement was made that city was short "a couple thousand gallons of gasoline." The shortage was unexplainable—but a thorough investigation by the police department this week led to the solution and its resultant correction.

COUNTY OFFICIALS PLEDGE HIGHWAY AID TO TORRANCE

Proposed County Center Buildings Cannot Be Constructed Here This Year, Supervisor Quinn Says

COUNTY WILL PAY 40 PER CENT COST

Lengthy Round-Table Session Results in Better Understanding Between City and County; Fund for County Center Was Cut From Budget

After a four-hour argument with county officials for more assistance from the county in helping promote city projects, Torrance city officials and civic leaders emerged from the affray with a definite promise of county aid for highways through Torrance, but with little encouragement for the early construction of the proposed county civic center and clinic.

The long debate took place at Earl's cafe last Thursday evening between Supervisor John Quinn, County Auditor Herbert Payne, and City Engineer, chairman of the county road department, defending the county, and the entire City Council, board of directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, and other civic leaders presenting the "Torrance side" of the various questions discussed.

"For eight solid and continuous years we have been living on promises from the county here in Torrance," said Rufus Page, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, who acted as chairman for the meeting. "In the last eight years we have received but one appropriation from county funds, which was \$54,000 for an overhead crossing of Western avenue over the Pacific Electric tracks, and even this was later cut to \$7000 and a grade crossing substituted. At the present time, Torrance is paying \$228,000 per year into the county treasury, and we want something more than promises. We want something we can spend," Page demanded.

Discuss Health Center
Page then called on Sam Levy to open the discussion on the health clinic and county civic center.

"I would like to know how we stand on this matter at the present time," said Levy. "The Chamber of Commerce bought a piece of land for a park. That was decided to donate that land to the county for a clinic and county civic center, which we understand would include a justice court, public library, sheriff's sub-station, as well as permanent quarters for the Torrance Relief Society. That was over a year ago, and we would like to know if we are to have the health center or a playground."

Dr. Lancaster supported Mr. Levy's remarks by saying: "I understood a year ago that the appropriation had been made; that Torrance was to have the health center; and then, somehow, that disappeared from the picture and we didn't get the health center. Dr. Pomeroy's assistant told me that it was assured and that it was going right ahead. I also heard that we were going to have a justice court and county library. We have been paying taxes for a county library and the county has only been spending six or seven thousand dollars a year. I have been urging it all the time."

Removed From Budget
Supervisor John Quinn then explained that he did have an appropriation of \$25,000 in last year's budget to start the health center in Torrance, that he had fought vigorously to keep it in the budget, but a 10 per cent cut in county property valuations coupled with the necessity of avoiding an increase in county taxes, made it mandatory to take the item from the health center out of the budget.

"It was the last item to come out," said Quinn.

When asked as to the possibilities of getting money from the unappropriated funds, Quinn said that the demands for charity and aid for the unemployed were running far in excess of anticipation and it was very doubtful if there would be any funds available. He did promise to include the item for the Torrance health center in next year's budget and he expressed the hope that it would not be taken out.

Alondra Park
DeKaib Spurlin asked if it were not possible to improve Alondra Park now and furnish work for the unemployed. He pointed out that a recent registration in Torrance showed 250 men out of work and that their financial obligations exceeded \$60,000.

"If any plans have been completed for the improvement of Alondra Park or any other county work in this vicinity, I think the work should be done now," said Spurlin.

Supervisor Quinn stated that the

measured the result of his work in a certified five gallon container. This was filled—and there was still some gasoline left over.

Suspect Tank Now
Again the chief pumped what the pump said was five gallons of gasoline and this time the excess fluid amounted to exactly one quart.

"Aha!" quoth Calder. "The pump is faulty! It has been giving too much gasoline!"
—And so it was, one quart too much. Pencils scribbled on paper and it was found that in distributing 6000 gallons of gasoline last year, the pump had defrauded the city of about 300 gallons.

The pump which has long and honestly served the city, was corrected—not discharged—and today it gives exactly five gallons for every five-gallon pumping.

Now there are those who believe that if the storage tank under the pump was given the same rigorous examination the rest of the gasoline shortage may be traced to its source and corrective measures applied that will eliminate the "missing" quality of the city's gasoline.