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LUDLOW 'EXPLAINS'

An Editorial By GROVER C. WHY

Councilman Scott Ludlow, chairman of the finance committee, complains that he has been busy "explaining" ever since the Herald printed the story at week that he had recommended a city budget for next year, which will necessitate an INCREASE OF AT LEAST 12 CENTS in the municipal tax rate.

And it looks as if explanations are in order, because Ludlow's pre-election campaign was managed by the local president of the Taxpayers' League, who avowed purpose is to reduce taxes 30 per cent. So win Councilman Ludlow recommends a budget that demands an 10 cent rate, which is the highest that has been levied in Torrance since 1925, it seems quite appropriate that he should be called upon to explain.

This amazing increase in the municipal tax rate is all the more difficult to understand, when we remember that to extra items which had to be paid last year are not required during the coming year. We refer particularly to the \$17,803 payment for accumulated assessments by the Metropolitan Water District and a \$5000 attorney's fee for the water bond suit. Last year council was also faced with reduction in assessed valuation of nearly two million dollars over the previous year.

Ludlow's "explanation" that "your tax bill won't be a higher because of the reduction in assessed valuations made the county" is most unsatisfactory. Assessment figures were lowered by the county because property is worth less, and consequently should be taxed less. The county board of supervisors realize this fact, and have determined to keep the county tax rate as low as last year, so that the benefits of reductions in assessed valuations will be passed on to the taxpayer. What good will lower valuations do us if the city increases the rate?

Let's draw a comparison with Ludlow's explanation. Suppose you had a mortgage on your home for \$4000 last year and you paid off \$800 on it, leaving a balance of \$3200 still due. Would you be satisfied if the mortgage company continued to charge you as much interest on the \$3200 as you paid on the \$4000? You would not. Well, the county has written off a similar amount on the value of your property. So why should you be satisfied to pay the same amount of taxes as you paid last year? In the light of this parallelism, Ludlow's explanation seems ridiculous.

But while Councilman Ludlow is "explaining" why he put \$1000 in the city's budget to pay the personal expenses of himself and other councilmen. No other finance chairman ever attempted to pay the personal expenses of councilmen. This seems like a very poor year to start the practice.

Then there's the \$60 a year for membership in the Los Angeles County League of Municipalities, which is regarded by many as a political organization to promote the interests of public officials.

But why go on and on? The point we wish to emphasize is that if there had been a diligent effort made to lower city government expenses, we believe such items as were mentioned would never have been considered by the finance chairman.

CANDIDATES TO SPEAK HARBOR DIST. MEETING

Office Seekers Are Invited to Chamber of Commerce Session

Harbor District Chambers of Commerce will meet in Redondo Beach on July 14 to hold what is termed the greatest meeting this organization has ever staged.

All candidates for office, from justice of the peace up to president of the United States, are invited to attend. It is hardly thought likely that President Hoover or Governor Roosevelt will be there, but a good many Los Angeles county candidates have signified their intention to attend.

A basket dinner will be held in the Elks hall beginning at 4 o'clock. All candidates are requested to register at these sessions. The social meeting with speakers and entertainment will be held at the Elks hall after dinner.



EIGHTEENTH YEAR—No. 27

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VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE MAY VISIT RELATIVES HERE

Unless Plans of Nominee Are Altered Due to Pressure of Campaign Affairs, John N. Garner May Spend Brief Vacation in Southern California

Torrance may have a call from a distinguished visitor this summer.

According to Mrs. J. E. Price, 1819 Cabrillo avenue, who received the news from other members of the family in High Grove, the Honorable Speaker of the House and recent Democratic vice presidential nominee, Mr. John Nance Garner, and Mrs. Garner may spend a short vacation in Southern California, visiting various relatives.

Mrs. Price and Mr. Garner are cousins. As soon as Congress adjourns, Mr. and Mrs. Garner will leave for the West, stopping en route in Texas to visit their home in Uvalde where an enthusiastic reception is awaiting them from old friends and associates, and where their son, Tully, is engaged in the banking business.

From there the Garners will come to California to be greeted by the numerous members of the clan who reside in the Southland, who are overjoyed by the success of their relative and who are only awaiting his appearance here to join in the nation-wide chorus of congratulations and good wishes.

As soon as a definite date can be set when the Garners are to be expected, these plans will be perfected and all arrangements will be completed.

Whether the action of the Democratic convention in naming Garner as the Roosevelt running mate will have the effect of cancelling his plans for a California vacation, due to the pressure of campaign business, is as yet unknown by the relatives here, but all are hoping that he will carry out the original schedule and make them the promised visit.

Circus Stunts Are Disastrous to Two Youths

Fall From Cable Slide 25 Feet in Air Results in Serious Injuries

Clifford Powell, age 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Powell, and Len Iaggi, young son of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Iaggi, fell 25 feet from a cable rigged between some trees east of the National Supply Company last week, and each suffered the fracture of bones in both arms. Young Iaggi received a triple fracture of the left forearm and a double fracture of the right.

The cable, which was about 75 feet long, had a pulley from which was suspended a short rope and crossbar, and the arrangement has been in use for some little time by the youngsters of the city as a source of amusement. By holding on the crossbar and launching out from a tree, the daring youths could be carried high in the air from one end of the cable to the other.

Young Powell and Iaggi were riding double when a loose rope caught in the branch of a tree and the sudden stop from a speed of about 20 miles an hour threw them to the ground. They landed not more than three feet from a row of jagged eucalyptus stumps. Both boys were severely injured and scratched in addition to their broken bones.

The Torrance fire department was called to the vicinity of Paris and Strawberry avenues on July 4 to extinguish a grass fire.

Intersections to Be Painted With Name, Numbers

Legionnaires Start Work to Replace Dimmed Street Identification

In response to a proposition by the Bert S. Crossland Post, the Torrance city council on Tuesday night entered into an agreement with the post whereby all intersections in the city to the number of 130 will be repainted with the name of the street and the block number on all four corners.

This arrangement will give employment to about 30 men. The price agreed upon for the service will be \$1.70 per intersection, or a total of \$221.00.

VOTERS ATTENTION!

Voters who have changed their place of residence or who wish to change their party registration may register at the office of the city clerk, A. H. Bartlett. The books are now open for such changes and will remain open until July 21, when registrations for the primaries on August 30 will close.

Torrance Man Withdraws From Assembly Race

W. H. Crowley Announces He Is No Longer Candidate For the Legislature

William H. Crowley, Torrance man who recently filed his nomination papers to participate in the race for assemblyman from the 68th district, announces this week that he has reconsidered his action and will not be a candidate at the primaries on August 30.

New State Patrol Headquarters Are Located at Lomita

State highway patrol officers touring this section of the country will check in every night at the Lomita fire station, it was disclosed today. The new motorcycle beat covering Palos Verdes and Lomita has been designated as Beat No. 13, and it is hoped that the unlucky number will not forecast misfortune for motorists in this part of the county, commented Spike Laaky, captain of the county's fire station in Lomita.

By action of the board of supervisors, effective July 1, the county motorcycle patrol was disbanded and its duties and personnel taken over by the state patrol. Area sergeants under the county become captains under the state. So if you're stopped on the boulevard by a motorcycle officer and are obstinate to make a hit with the arresting officer, call him "Captain," instead of "Sergeant."

Suit Is Filed Against Moneta Water Company

R. C. Kite Seeks to Compel Conveyance of Stock and Asks Damages

The action was filed on November 10, 1930. Directors named in the action are John Salm of Torrance, L. F. Stephenson of Gardena, E. R. Stephenson of Moneta, Lee B. Hawkins of Moneta, Frank R. Carrell of Los Angeles, Mrs. E. P. Young of Carmel, to whom Kite sold 10 shares of stock also was named in the complaint but the court already has dismissed two causes of action against her.

FIRST VOTERS ISSUE A CALL TO ORGANIZE

Young Men and Women of Torrance In Move to Form Roosevelt Club

Young men and women of Torrance, who will cast their first presidential ballot in the coming election on November 8, are preparing to take an active interest in the campaign.

A call has been issued which is reproduced below, in which all first voters are invited to attend a meeting to be held at the Chamber of Commerce rooms on Tuesday, July 12, at 7:30 p. m., to organize a Roosevelt for President Club, providing they are of the Democratic faith, and are in accord with the principles of democracy as set forth in the recently adopted Democratic platform.

The call is signed by six of the leading young men of Torrance, Robert Lessing, Gordon Baugh, Turner McLean, Frank Perkins, Phillips Brooks and George F. Shidler. At the first meeting all who attend will be invited to sign the roster and an election of club officers will be held. The text of the call is as follows:

"Feeling confident that in our community of Torrance there are many young men and women who will cast their first votes for

CESSPOOL AT FERN SCHOOL PROTESTED

Council Also Disapproves of School Board's Plan for Street Paving

The Los Angeles board of education proposal to construct a cesspool for the Fern avenue school in order to save \$500 to \$700 in extending a sewer line to the new school, met with disapproval at the Torrance council meeting this week.

The council is also opposing the school board's plan for paving only half of a 30-foot roadway on Fern and Eldorado avenues. The school board proposes to surface the other 15 feet of the roadway with rock and oil—which City Engineer Leonard pointed out was the cheapest kind of street improvement. The school board also proposes to eliminate any road improvement on Elm avenue.

Leonard pointed out that while cesspools are satisfactory for taking care of surface water, he did not favor using them for sanitary sewage, particularly when connected with the public building such as a school where a large number of people will be stationed.

Action to Open Western Avenue Waits On Report

Hearing On Street Opening May Be Delayed Several Months

Preparation of the debt limit report on the extension of Western avenue south of Torrance to San Pedro is awaiting the new figures on valuation of property involved in the opening, it was learned this week at the office of the county surveyor in Los Angeles. These figures will be obtained from the county assessor as soon as they are turned in to the board of supervisors.

The board of supervisors on Tuesday began sitting as a board of equalization on Los Angeles county assessments and will have the books in their possession until July 15, when they will be turned over to W. O. Welch, county tax collector. It is the 1932 assessed values that will be used in the debt limit report.

Extension of Figueroa street, for which the county has allocated \$103,446, is not expected to affect the opening of Western avenue. This work will only extend Figueroa street to 190th street, while Western avenue will be more desirable in many ways, it is believed.

Prospects today are that a hearing will be held in approximately four or five months. It is not generally believed that there will be a majority protest against the proposed improvement. The Torrance city engineer has asked that the cost of improving that section as far south as 225th street be considered, as far as Torrance was concerned, and the surveyor's office said it is planned to carry it through in that manner.

Former Resident of Torrance Dies

Funeral services for Stiles Clay Torrance, a cousin of the late Jared Sidney Torrance, were held Tuesday afternoon from the Hollywood Cemetery Chapel. Mr. Torrance is survived by his wife, three sons and one daughter. He was a veteran of the Civil War and at its close devoted his life to the furtherance of peace, a pioneer in this movement. Mr. Torrance will be remembered by many Torrance people as a pioneer resident of this city.

Shirley Antis Is New Movie Actress

Miss Shirley Jeanne Antis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Watson E. Antis, 112 Beech street, is the newest Torrance baby star to twinkle in the movies. Miss Shirley Jeanne is now rehearsing for her appearance in a production being filmed by Metropolitan Production Company at Hollywood. Details of the production at present are lacking, owing to the secrecy which usually surrounds a new show, but later the name and release date of the production in which Shirley Jeanne is taking part, will be announced.

MAYOR TOLD TO PUT CHARGES IN WRITING OR APOLOGIZE

Stevenson Attempts to Force Klusman Hand; Wright Will Also File Charges For "Yellow Dog" Remark

Mayor Klusman was put "on the spot" at Tuesday night's council meeting by Assistant Fire Chief Ollie Stevenson, and "His Honor" will either have to "come clean" and prefer written charges against Stevenson or swallow his pride and "apologize in public" to the fireman, according to a letter read at the council meeting this week.

At a council meeting two weeks ago, Mayor Klusman charged that Stevenson was "not fit to be on the job" and that "he used language I wouldn't tell before a lady."

The mayor also stated that Stevenson's unbecoming to city employes. The altercation between Klusman and Stevenson is said to be the outgrowth of the mayor's attempt to remove the Stevenson family from occupying living quarters above the city jail.

Workman Falls From Structure Over P.E. Tracks

Harry J. Udink Dashed to Death Last Week at Crossing Viaduct

Bad working conditions were blamed for the death of Harry J. Udink, who fell 25 feet from the grade separation structure over the Pacific Electric tracks at Vermont avenue and Anaheim boulevard Tuesday, June 23. This was the opinion of the coroner's jury at the inquest into Udink's death Wednesday.

Udink, who lived at 1558 West 56th place, was the father of 18 children. He had been given employment as a carpenter on the job after three months of unemployment. Only a week ago the coroner's jury at the inquest into Udink's death Wednesday.

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East Road and Western Avenue to Be Resurfaced

Resurfacing of 208th street, or East road, from Normandie avenue to the city of Torrance and the Western avenue bridge is provided for in the list of projects to be undertaken by the city of Los Angeles during the next three months. This was revealed when the city filed with the board of supervisors this week a list of several thousand streets on which the city would do work providing the county would give the city \$500,000 to pay for the maintenance work.

Mrs. Dan Leonard Passed Away Sun.

Mrs. Dan Leonard, wife of the well-known third baseman of the Torrance Bluebirds, passed away suddenly Sunday afternoon at Huntington Park hospital, following a Caesarian operation performed Saturday morning. Funeral services were held Tuesday at Huntington Park. She is survived by her husband and one child besides her infant son. Mr. Leonard is an employe of the Pacific Electric Company and has many friends in Torrance where the family formerly resided, who will be grieved to hear of his bereavement.

Radio-Equipped Police Car Will Serve In Torrance

Torrance outlying districts such as the Hollywood Riviera, Welteria and the McDonald tract are to have the benefit of police protection due to action by the city council Tuesday night. A radio-equipped police car will make the rounds of these districts, the services of which may be obtained through a hook-up with the Los Angeles police department broadcasting system.

Police calls from the outlying districts, in case of emergency, to be phoned in to the Torrance police station. From there the orders will be relayed to the Los Angeles police department and broadcast to the Torrance radio patrol car. Prompt service in answering calls for protection will thus be obtained.

In connection with this system, the council is making arrangements with the telephone company to establish direct wire service from the outlying districts, which now are compelled to put in their calls through the switchboards in neighboring cities. This will speed up the service and at the same time do away with the toll charges that are now collected. This will be used for police calls only.