



EIGHTEENTH YEAR—No. 36

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1932

5c PER COPY

TORRANCE TAX INCREASE IS BIGGER THAN OTHER CITIES

Boost of 33c in Tax Rate Due Entirely to City Council and L. A. School Board; Charter Defeat Raises School Tax 56c

The 1932 total tax rate in Torrance, covering all items excepting special district assessments, has been set at \$3.69 per \$100 assessed valuation, which is a 33c increase over the \$3.36 total rate in 1931. The entire 33c increase is due to an 18c boost in the school tax from \$1.62 to \$1.80 and a 15c increase in the municipal tax, from 68c to 83c.

The county tax remains at 88c, the same as last year. Likewise the flood control levy at 10c. A one-cent decrease in the free library tax from 5c to 4c is offset by an equal increase in the Metropolitan Water District tax from 3c to 4c.

Big Increase Here
The percentage of increase in the Torrance municipal rate is one of the largest of any city in Southern California. The 15c increase in the levy for purely municipal purposes represents a 22 per cent boost over the rate set by last year's city council. A comparison of percentages with last year's municipal tax rates in nearby cities shows the following:
Torrance, 22% INCREASE.
Bell, 5.5% DECREASE.
Beverly Hills, 5% INCREASE.
Burbank, 15% DECREASE.
Compton, 6% INCREASE.
Culver City, same as last year.
Hawthorne, 1% INCREASE.
Hermosa Beach, 8% INCREASE.
Huntington Park, 4% INCREASE.
Lynwood, same as last year.
Manhattan, same as last year.
Maywood, same as last year.
Redondo, same as last year.
South Gate, 4% INCREASE.

Charter Loss Costly
During the campaign last April over the adoption of a city charter, Judge C. T. Rippey, chairman of the charter board of freeholders, warned taxpayers that unless the charter was adopted that this city could expect an increase in its school tax rate from 17c to 25c, as the result of remaining in the Los Angeles city school district. It is interesting now to see how closely Judge Rippey's prediction has come true, as the school tax has been raised 18 cents by the Los Angeles board. Rippey also stated that by the adoption of the charter which carried with it the formation of a local school district, that the school tax on Torrance property would be lowered 35c. This 35c saving, coupled with this year's 18c increase, would have meant a reduction of 16c in the Torrance tax rate on the one item of school expense. However, as the charter was defeated, this substantial reduction in the tax rate has been lost.

Canning Crew At Veterans Relief Sets A Record

The canning crew at the Veterans Relief headquarters set a record for the season Tuesday when they packed out 388 cans of peaches for the day. The men are well on toward the end of their second thousand cans and have a good supply of peaches, pears and tomatoes put up for winter use.

A new supply of cans will soon be needed, and any donations of funds for the purchase of this material will be appreciated.

During the 47 days since the organization began operations, an average of 309 persons have been fed daily, and a total of more than 73 tons of food supplies have been handled.

A total cash outlay of \$102 for gasoline and other small supplies has been recorded during that time. This does not include the purchase of canning equipment which was bought with funds appropriated by the city council.

Mrs. McDonald Out On Parole

Mrs. Joan McDonald, resident of Harbor City, who was convicted of manslaughter in the killing of her brother-in-law nearly three years ago, will be released on parole September 13, after having served 28 months of her sentence at San Quentin. The killing took place at a restaurant in Harbor City during a dispute.

Clagstone Dies at Santa Monica

Paul C. Clagstone, western manager of the United States Chamber of Commerce, died Friday, September 2, at a Santa Monica private sanitarium. Mr. Clagstone will be remembered by many business men in Torrance who heard him deliver an address here several months ago.

Brotherhood to Open Their Toy Hospital Again

Good News For Youngsters of Torrance In Club Announcement

Good news for the children of Torrance is contained in the announcement of the Brotherhood of Central Evangelical church to the effect that the "Toy Hospital" will be reopened soon. Each year the Brotherhood has come to the aid of "St. Nick" and helped him to supply the wants of the little tots of this city, by establishing a headquarters where used or broken toys are reconditioned and made as good as new.

These toys are distributed at Christmas time and many a child has been made happy by the gift of some of these made-over toys.

The Brotherhood, to make their venture the success it has been in past years, asks the co-operation of Torrance residents. Donations of toys, games, story books, are wanted. The Brotherhood will make a later announcement of the location of the toy hospital, and wish to have a good supply ready for their benevolent efforts when the place opens for business.

Road Projects to Receive Aid From Co. Board

Nearby Territory to Benefit By Allocation of Funds

Electric avenue in Gardena and South Normandie avenue are among the acquisition and improvement districts to benefit from the \$120,000 voted by the county board of supervisors. It was resolved today. These districts are in addition to the special aid extended the Alondra Park, Baldwin Park and other assessment districts.

Normandie avenue, district No. 70, will benefit to the extent of \$43,301. Electric avenue, district No. 122, will benefit to the extent of \$8967. Prairie avenue, north of Torrance, will benefit by \$5029, being acquisition and improvement district No. 213.

Allocation of a total of \$2000 for the improvement of Riverside and Redondo boulevard within the city of Gardena has also been made. The supervisors, on motion of Supervisor John R. Quinn of the fourth district, appropriated \$1637 and upon recommendation of George Jones, road commissioner, allocated an additional \$463 two days later.

The improvement is to consist of two-inch rock and oil shoulders and will extend from Vermont avenue west to the Gardena city limits.

Construction of a drainage structure across Santa Fe avenue, 124 feet east of Kruttschnitt avenue, in Redondo Beach, was provided for by the board of supervisors with an allocation of \$570.55. The money is to be taken from the county good roads fund, on motion of Supervisor John R. Quinn.

Advertise For Bids On Locally Made Linoleum

Bids were being advertised today for rubber base and standard linoleum for the new Torrance Health center, with a clause in the specifications that gives preference to local bidders. At the request of the board of supervisors, William Davidson, the county's chief mechanical engineer, was asked to have the specifications written so that Los Angeles manufactured products would be favored.

Advertising of bids was delayed one week by the supervisors to have this clause inserted in the specifications.

Several colors of linoleum may be laid in the new building, which now is nearing completion on a site given to the county. Opening bids for the new health center is expected to be announced shortly.

Keystone House and Contents Burn

A house occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Harry C. Roque, in Keystone, was destroyed by fire Saturday night, together with its contents. The origin of the blaze is unknown, as the family was away from home during the evening and returned to find the structure wrapped in flames.

Young Man Escapes Death As Car Falls Over 300-Foot Cliff

Stanley Rabjohn, 1865 Temple avenue, Long Beach, narrowly escaped instant death shortly before noon Wednesday when his Chevrolet coupe left the road above the Royal Palms golf course on the Palos Verdes coast and fell 300 feet.

The car was completely demolished. Rabjohn was seriously injured and was taken to Seaside hospital at Long Beach. It is thought that his injuries will not prove fatal. Rabjohn was able to make a statement after he had been picked up, and said that a small car had forced him off the road which makes a turn at the point where the accident occurred.

Constable William Neff was called to the scene and took charge of the removal of the injured man. The car was taken to a Lomita garage.

Rabjohn is about 20 years of age. He was alone in the car at the time of the accident.

Bus Service For School Pupils to Be Curtailed

Only Three Outlying Districts Are to Be Furnished Transportation

School bus transportation in the Los Angeles city school district has been cut to a minimum for the coming season, according to an announcement by Herbert S. Wood, principal of Torrance high school. No bus transportation will be provided for pupils in the Torrance city district, with a few exceptions.

There will be no bus for the Torrance elementary school pupils, and for Fern avenue pupils only for those living west of Madrona avenue. Walteria will have transportation for those living in the north end of its district. The Torrance high school pupils will have none except for those living on the west side of Torrance outside of the two-mile limit, west of Hawthorne and along Sepulveda boulevard.

The Hammerton tract will have no bus service, nor will the Carson street school be furnished transportation.

There will be a bus for the children of the development section, but this may later be taken off if these children are taken out of the development section and redistributed to special classes.

Other pupils living in areas not specified will be compelled to find their own transportation to the various school buildings.

A few districts which were served last year, were given the transportation through the courtesy of the bus driver when he had room for the children after he had taken on board all those for whom the service had been authorized. These few small areas will not be provided with the transportation this year.

New Commander of Legion Post Thanks Comrades For Honor

Alex McPhail, new commander of the Bert S. Crossland Post, American Legion, in a statement addressed to his comrades, expresses his appreciation of the honor conferred upon him and calls upon them to work with him in carrying out the purposes and ideals of the Legion. Mr. McPhail says:

"Comrades: we are at the beginning of a new year of Legionism. As in the past, we have looked back with pride, each year at that which we have accomplished, let us strive to look back upon this year with equal if not greater pride. This Legion of ours will have opportunities this year to render service to community, state and nation as never before in its history. Economic conditions are such that there is a great need for an organization such as ours. It is your duty to see that our Legion does not fail. You have conferred upon me the great honor to lead you. I fully realize the great responsibility and trust that it entails and will pledge my utmost efforts to merit that trust."

Ask Widening Of Normandie Avenue

Widening of Normandie avenue between Imperial highway and Manchester boulevard is asked in a petition being circulated this week.

Klusman Help In Alondra Pk. Is Questioned

John Salm Asserts McDowell and Quinn Entitled to Credit, Not Klusman

It was amusing to read in the Torrance Herald last week that Mayor Klusman is claiming credit for securing the \$108,000 allotment from the county for the relief of Alondra Park taxpayers," stated John Salm, local manufacturer and resident of the McDonald tract, in a communication to the Herald this week. Continuing, Mr. Salm says:

"As a member of the committee which over the past six weeks has met with the board of supervisors, Supervisor John R. Quinn, County Auditor Payne and Deputy County Counsel H. W. Kennedy, I was in close touch with the actual facts concerning the matter. If any special credit is given to any member of the committee, all of whom have worked hard, it should go to O. B. McDowell and John R. Quinn. I believe in giving credit where credit is due and for this reason I resent the attempt of politically minded officials to take undue credit for the accomplishments of others."

Lomita Relief Annual Meeting Held Tuesday

George G. Key Re-Elected President of Local Organization

The Lomita Community Relief held its annual meeting Tuesday at the relief headquarters on Normandie avenue. During the nine months since the organization started, reports show that there have been distributed to those in need 408 boxes of groceries, 433 sacks of flour, 152 quantities of used clothing, also quantities of fish, lobster, vegetables and homemade vegetable soup.

Election of officers resulted in the following persons being chosen: George G. Key, president; R. H. Stevenson, first vice president; Mrs. O. W. Thistle, second vice president; Mrs. Marion Welch, secretary; Mrs. Vera Paige, treasurer; Hugo Schmidt, financial auditor; Barron Beckham, auditor.

Mr. Key appointed Mrs. Maddy as a visitation chairman; R. H. Trunfield, solicitation; and Mrs. Marion Welch, distribution.

A resolution was passed by the community as represented by those at the meeting, endorsing the work of the Lomita Community Relief and commending the officers very highly for their splendid services.

Appreciation was sincerely expressed for the free use of the room at 1130 Normandie; to the merchants for their co-operation in furnishing all goods at cost, and to the public for donations of all kinds.

P. E. Tracks at Normandie Are to Be Lowered

Cost of lowering the Pacific Electric tracks at Normandie avenue and 18th street will be financed out of the \$500,000 voted the city of Los Angeles last July 5 by the county board of supervisors.

This was assured this week when the supervisors adopted an amendment to the original resolution with that proviso.

Paving between the rails and for two feet on either side also is provided for in the amendment.

INDUSTRIAL HEADS AGREE TO HELP RE-ORGANIZE CHAMBER

Plural Memberships Abolished and Dues Reduced From \$5 to \$1 Year; Reorganization Work Progressing Satisfactorily

Reorganization of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce is progressing satisfactorily, it was reported this week by chamber officials. A number of industrial leaders have been invited to serve on the reorganization committee, and among those who have consented to serve are:

Sherwood McIntyre of the C.C.M. O. Company; R. R. Smith of the National Supply Company; George W. Fay of Doherty-McCoy Drill Company; Raymond C. Young of the International-Stacey Corporation; Carlton B. Bell of the Pacific Electric Company; Frank Dalton of J. W. McCall; the D. & M. Machine Works; and Judge C. T. Rippey, attorney.

B. W. Lanz, general superintendent of the Columbia Steel Company, who has previously expressed a willingness to assist the chamber in its work, could not be reached by chamber officials as he is out of the city. As soon as Lanz returns, he will be invited to serve with other industrial leaders.

As soon as the reorganization committee has been completed, it is planned to hold a meeting and discuss definite plans. It is expected that the first meeting of the complete committee will be held within a week.

Dues Reduced
At a recent meeting of the board of directors, the annual dues were reduced from \$5 to \$1 per year, and the practice of permitting plural memberships was abolished. A membership drive is now under way and residents in all walks of life are invited to join the chamber and assist in the plan to make it representative of the entire community.

Elect New Board
As soon as the membership drive is completed, it is suggested that an election be held among the newly accredited members, for the selection of an entirely new board of directors. It is the desire of those active in the reorganization to divorce the chamber from politics and to bring about a more harmonious co-operation among the factions which make up the city's life.

To Departmentalize
Among the suggestions being considered is that of establishing divisions or departments of the chamber to represent different interests, such as housing, transportation, financial, municipal affairs, merchandising, social welfare, education, advertising, industrial farming and various other group interests. It has also been suggested that open forum meetings be held at regular intervals for the free and open discussion of all community affairs.

Japanese Woman Seriously Injured In Auto Accident

Mrs. Inayao Kawanaka, wife of Shigeo Kawanaka, is at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital suffering from severe injuries received in an automobile accident at Ocean and Normandie Sunday morning about 1 o'clock. The woman received a skull fracture and a broken arm besides other minor injuries and her condition is serious. Her husband, treated Sunday morning for slight injuries, was able to leave the hospital a few hours later.

The accident occurred when a Ford V-8 collided with a Lincoln sedan in which the Japanese were riding. Occupants of the Ford were taken to Wilmington for treatment, but the names and extent of injuries of these persons could not be learned. A purse found in the wreckage contained the name of Mrs. Marguerite Baird, 1055 Fries avenue, Wilmington.

Two Liquor Cases Heard In Local Justice Court

Eulalio Hernandez and Henry Sigala, 18217 Florence street, were arraigned in the Lomita township justice court Tuesday on a charge of possession of liquor preferred by Thos. J. Brown of the sheriff's liquor squad. Hernandez pleaded guilty to the charge and assumed all responsibility for the liquor, whereupon Judge Dennis dismissed the charge against Sigala.

Hernandez was given a sentence of \$100 or 50 days in the county jail, and a commitment was issued. Both men are charged with the possession of still located at the above address, and will stand trial later.

Japanese Pair Are Convicted of Murder

Koji Hatamoto, Japanese rancher who pleaded guilty to the murder of 3-year-old Molly Kanda, in December of last year, has been sentenced to death by hanging. Mrs. Ayaka Kanda, mother of the child, who had left her husband to go with Hatamoto, who pleaded not guilty, was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment.

The pair were arrested in June at a ranch house on Emerald street, west of Torrance.

Two Cases Heard In Police Court

A. H. Ewell, 407 No. Broadway, Redondo Beach, arrested by Lomita township constables, was turned over to the Torrance city police Monday on a complaint by F. S. Jones, 845 Normandie avenue, who charged Ewell with the theft of a pair of ducks. Ewell was found guilty when arraigned before Judge C. T. Rippey Tuesday, and was fined \$10 or 5 days in the city jail. In default of payment Ewell is serving his sentence.

Mrs. Grace Coakley, residing on Marcelina avenue, was given a fine of \$50 for possession, which she paid.

Sudden Death of Mrs. Tourtellotte

Mrs. Martha Ann Tourtellotte, aged 84, passed away suddenly at her home at 1617 218th street, Thursday, September 1. She had been a resident of this section for the past nine years. One son, Fred, residing at Big Creek, California, survives her.

Funeral services were held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock from Stone & Myers chapel, under the auspices of the Eastern Star. Interment was made at Rosevelt Memorial Park.