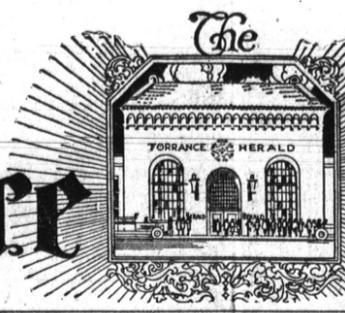


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NINETEENTH YEAR—No. 17 TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1933 PER COPY 5c

GRAND OPENING OF CITY PARK, MAY 7

Bank Ready for Examination Preparatory to Opening Normally

NEW CITY PARK THROWN OPEN TO PUBLIC ON SUNDAY, MAY 7

Gala—Program of Music, Drill Team and High Class Ball Game Provided for Visitors to Municipal Playground; Night Ball Starts May 5

Torrance's new city park will be thrown open to the public Sunday, May 7, with a gala program to start the festivities in the grand manner, according to the announcement made by Councilman Scott Ludlow, chairman of the parks committee, who will have charge of the arrangements.

Ludlow has as members of his committee to prepare the program, Grover C. Whyte, editor of the Torrence Herald; G. S. Evans, general insurance agent of Lomita; D. A. (Spud) Murphy, manager of the Torrence Bluebirds; and P. A. Phoenix, of the American Legion, who have lined up a stellar ball game between the Torrence Merchants, managed by Ray Townsend, and the Los Angeles Nippons, one of the best known semi-pro teams in the district.

Mayor W. T. Klusman will pitch the first ball, and the American Legion drill team will put up some fancy marching stunts, with the drum corps to furnish music. While the Torrence Bluebirds will be the first team to occupy the grounds, as their first home game of the National Night Ball League will be played Friday night, May 5, the official opening will not take place until the following Sunday afternoon and the entire population of Torrence and its surrounding communities is invited to attend to give the new park the proper dedication to sports and relaxation.

Culmination of Hopes
The construction of the new park has completed a project long desired in the city, and no doubt will become increasingly popular as it develops in beauty and utility.

The grounds have been leveled, trees and shrubs are to be planted, and a complete plan of beautifying will be carried out. Since its inception, new plans for the landscaping have been drawn up which are an improvement over the first ideas.

In connection with the landscaping, City Engineer Frank Leonard suggests, that since this is a community affair, the clubs, organizations and individuals of Torrence should take part in beautifying the surroundings by donating one or more trees which will be planted in the park and will be a lasting and living testimony of the donor's civic interest. Parents are invited to give a tree in the name of their children so that the youngsters may have a personal interest in the park, and find pleasure in watching "their" tree grow as they grow.

Leonard's Elm
City Engineer Leonard has started the move by donating a large elm and other citizens have signified their intention of giving various trees.

At the present time, to speed up the work, some large palms and cypresses are being transplanted to the park, which were taken from other locations in the city. The new plan of landscaping includes a fountain as the central figure in the scheme. Flowering shrubs and plants will be included in the general design. The whole effect when once the greenery is in place and flourishing will be inviting.

Since practically all the work on the park has been done by the means of labor paid for by the county bureau of unemployment stabilization, the cost to the city of Torrence has been held to a minimum. At the same time, a considerable sum has been released to Torrence residents in wages. According to the figures compiled by the city engineer's office, 50 days of labor have been done on the park at an average total of \$88 per day, a total of \$4,400, with an average employment list of 21.25 men. Cost of materials was borne by the city.

TURN TO STORY ONE

Payment of Tax By Installment Is Not Required

County Collector's Office Says Moratorium Good Until June 20

According to a statement from the county tax collector's office the statement published last week in this paper, to the effect that second half taxes were payable in installments not later than April 29, May 20 and June 20, is erroneous. The moratorium bill as finally adopted contains no such provision, although such a proposal was made as an amendment to the original bill. Property owners here will have until June 20 to pay the second half of their taxes as far as the county tax collector's office is concerned.

Property owners who can pay their second installment real estate taxes without taking advantage of the 60-day moratorium voted by the state legislature are asked by the board of supervisors to do so. "It was the intention of the moratorium to give relief to the destitute home owner only," Chairman Frank L. Shaw of the board said today. The board adopted by unanimous vote a resolution of Supervisor Hugh A. Thatcher of the first district, urging that prompt payments be made.

Deferred payment upon warrants loomed as a result of the moratorium, causing considerable concern to the 18,000 county school teachers. Vierling Kibrey, state superintendent of public instruction, made a special trip to Los Angeles last week to confer with Archie R. Clifton, county superintendent, on the predicament of the 145 school districts of the county.

Appeal to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation for funds to rebuild earthquake-damaged schools also was discussed at the meeting. However, the county faces the moratorium with \$51,265,532 in its treasury. This was disclosed by an official count made by the county auditor, county clerk, district attorney and chairman of the board of supervisors.

This is not what it seems, however, as there was but \$4,012,000 in the general and salary funds to meet the real emergency. Remainder of the money represents tax collections for Torrence and the other 43 cities in the county, and to school districts.

Notice to Unemployed

Under a new ruling from the department, a revised list of unemployed must be sent in from the Torrence headquarters by next Saturday, April 29. Investigators have been making the rounds to check up on workers, and all those who have not been interviewed and have not signed the new card must call at the engineer's office immediately. Otherwise their names will be stricken from the present list.

President's Day Sunday, April 30



THE NATION will pause Sunday to honor Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the new Moses who is leading his people out of the wilderness of the country's worst economic crisis. It is indeed fitting that we pay this tribute to this Man of the Hour, and to thank God for sending us such a courageous and capable leader.

Torrance Joins With Los Angeles In Honoring President On Sunday

A delegation of members of the city council and city officials will attend the President's Day pageant to be held next Sunday, April 30, at the Los Angeles coliseum in honor of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. A big parade with military and naval units, numerous bands, Legionnaire drum corps, and many other delegations from fraternal orders, university and high schools, thousands of Boy Scouts, will open the program.

BANK READY FOR EXAMINERS PREPARATORY TO REOPENING

While Quota of Signatures Is Reached, Those Who Have Not Signed Are Urged to Do So At Once

The depositors' reorganization committee of the First National Bank of Torrence reported early this week that signatures representing over 75 per cent of the total deposits in the bank had been obtained, which is the quota required by government regulations. Officials of the bank immediately dispatched word to federal banking examiners that the First National Bank of Torrence was ready for an examination preparatory to obtaining a permit to reopen on a normal basis.

J. W. Post, president of the bank, stated today, however, that he did not expect the bank examiners to reach Torrence for a week or ten days, because of the excessive work of banking examiners at this time. After a bank is given permission to reopen on a normal basis, it cannot resume full operations for 15 days, as banking regulations require a 15-day notice of withdrawal from a conservatorship—the plan under which the First National is now operating.

Under the law governing reorganization of banks, wherever signatures representing 75 per cent of the deposits in a bank have been secured, the remaining depositors automatically are required to agree to the plan and in the case of the local bank will be required to limit withdrawals on old deposits to 50 per cent, the same as those depositors who have already signed the trustee agreements. However, members of the reorganization committee are anxious to secure as large a number of voluntary signatures as possible because of the favorable influence such a showing would have upon the bank examiners. For this reason, those few remaining depositors who have not yet signed the trustee agreements are urged to do so at once. The depositors' committee headquarters in the escrow room of the bank is remaining open to take care of those who have not yet signed agreements.

Industries All Sign
Mr. Post stated this morning that all the local industries and public utility corporations had signed the trustee agreement.

PRESIDENT



DR. BINGHAM CHOSEN NEW ROTARY HEAD

Dr. R. A. Bingham, dentist, was chosen president of the Torrence Rotary Club for the coming year at a meeting of the newly elected club directors Monday noon. Other officers elected include Grover C. Whyte, vice president, and Harvel Guttenfelder, secretary. Besides the president and vice president the new board of directors is: Charles V. Jones, Arthur Waldeich, L. B. Kelsey and the retiring president, Richard R. Smith.

Pat Rubel Joins Herald Staff As Advertising Mgr.

Arthur "Pat" Rubel, who for the past four years has been associated with the South Bay Daily Breeze at Redondo Beach as advertising manager, this week joined the staff of the Torrence Herald and Lomita News in the same capacity. It was announced by Grover C. Whyte, publisher.

George Licht Is Elected Manager

Mrs. Jessie Suttle, who for several months has been in charge as manager of the Veterans' Relief Association, resigned her position last Saturday, and will retire from active daily work at the headquarters.

LULOW CALLS MAYOR'S HAND FOR DELAYING WATER SYSTEM

Klusman Attempts to Block Move to Bring Water Deal Out of His Committee; Mayor Would Also Delay Purchase of Reservoir Site

Efforts of Councilman Ludlow and Hitchcock to expedite work on the proposed new municipal water system in Torrence by bringing negotiations with the Torrence Water, Light & Power Company out of the hands of water committee headed by Mayor Klusman and before the council as a whole, were again blocked by Mayor Klusman at Tuesday night's council meeting.

"It seems funny, Mr. Mayor, that you want to keep putting this matter off," said Ludlow, following Klusman's argument for keeping the contacts with water company officials in the hands of the committee. "I hesitate to find any ulterior motive, but I cannot see why you want to delay the matter when there is no excuse for it. If you were not a member of this council and similar action was taken by a committee, you would refer to it as a star chamber session," Ludlow added.

Rufus Page In Plea For Action On Water Deal

Believes City Should Start At Once Without Consulting Present Water Company

A strong appeal for immediate action in the construction of a new municipal water system for Torrence was made before the city council Tuesday evening by W. Rufus Page, former president of the Torrence Chamber of Commerce and also of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce. Mr. Page has been one of the most active citizens in advocating a new water system for Torrence. Prior to the election, he labored long hours securing signatures to petitions in order to bring the bond issue to a vote.

In his talk to the city council, Mr. Page reviewed the long fight which local citizens have made to secure an adequate water system and fair water rates. "Ten years ago when I came to Torrence, we were paying the same rate as other nearby communities; and we are still paying \$2.25 per thousand cubic feet for domestic water, which is four and one-half times as much as neighboring communities," Page said.

"Nothing has so hampered the growth and development of this city as much as our water situation, and many residents have gone to neighboring communities because of our water rates," Page stated. "The bond issue was carried by a vote of 132 to 158; we were held up in the courts for two and one-half years, while thousands of dollars rolled into the coffers of the water company. Now we hear whispers around about the bonds."

Page also pointed out that the industries pay a large share of the taxes in the area covered by the water bond issue and predicted that for this reason it would be an easy matter to market the bonds, especially when bond buyers realize that such corporations as the United States Steel, Santa Fe Railway, General Petroleum, National Supply, and other responsible firms are among the largest taxpayers in the assessment district.

"Why should the city council consult the water company?" asked Page. "It seems to me we should go about constructing a water system. Go out in the open market and buy materials. I don't think the water company should be considered."

Page also deplored the condition of the water and the pressure maintained by the water company.

At a meeting held to fill the vacancy, George Licht was elected manager and is now in charge.

TURN TO STORY 2