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## CITY REFUSED OPTION BY WATER CO.

### Torrance Swings Into Step On Pres. Roosevelt's Recovery Program

#### WATER COMPANY TURNS DOWN CITY'S OFFER TO BUY PLANT

Council Indicates Intention of Going Ahead With Construction of New System As Soon As Federal Funds Are Received

The reply of the Torrance Water, Light & Power Company to the city's offer to purchase the present water system at \$113,441 was characterized by City Attorney J. R. Jensen as an "evasion." The city attorney told the Torrance city council Tuesday night that he would consider the water company's answer a "direct turn-down" of the city's proposal.

Jensen discredited the idea of submitting the matter to an arbitration board of three disinterested engineers as suggested by E. C. Nelson, president of the water company, for the reason that under the state law, a city council cannot delegate its authority to such a body; and that if such a board were created, the council could only be "influenced" by its report.

"How does the council feel about the arbitration board?" asked Mayor Klusman.

"We have had two engineers' reports already and I don't see any need for further reports," said Councilman Hitchcock.

"We already heard from two-thirds of such an arbitration board, as we have had reports from City Engineer Leonard and the Consulting Engineer Bradshaw," said Councilman Conner.

Councilman Ludlow characterized the proposal as "very vague," and Councilman Wright, who on previous occasions has expressed himself as opposed to the purchase of the present water system, reminded the council that if such an arbitration board were created, it would cost more money for engineers.

While no action was taken by the city council Tuesday night, it was quite apparent from the discussion, that (with the exception of Mayor Klusman) it was the intention of the council to go ahead with its plans for constructing a new water system as soon as federal officials approved the purchase of the water bonds.

City Engineer Leonard reported that he had been informed by federal officials at the R. F. C. office that a letter was on its way requesting more complete information on a few points relative to the proposed loan. On motion of Councilman Hitchcock, the city clerk was authorized to call a special meeting of the council as soon as the letter from R. F. C. officials is received.

Then followed a long discussion between members of the city council and E. C. Nelson, president of the water company, but

(Continued on Page 4-A)

#### Pre-Natal Clinic Opened Tuesday at Co. Health Center

More than 20 prospective mothers from the district served by the county health and welfare center in Torrance entered the first pre-natal clinic held in this city, and received examinations and advice from doctor and nurses in attendance Tuesday morning, August 8.

Dr. N. A. Leake, who has just returned from Chicago where he spent three months in intensive study at two of the leading maternity clinics and hospitals in the United States, has charge of the clinic which will be a regular feature of the county health service here, according to an announcement by Dr. H. C. Smiley, in charge of the center.

The clinics will be held every Tuesday morning, and those who are in need of this service may apply to the secretaries in charge at the desk for their cards of entry.

#### TAX RATE IS SET FINALLY AT 96 CENTS

Efforts of Councilman Ludlow to Adopt 94c Rate Over-ruled

The city tax rate for the fiscal year 1933-34 was definitely set by the Torrance city council Tuesday night at 96 cents per \$100 assessed valuation in the "old town" and 90 cents in the annexed territory, which were the rates called for in the budget submitted by City Clerk Bartlett. A previous motion offered by Councilman Scott Ludlow, chairman of the finance committee, setting the rates at 94 cents and 88 cents was lost for want of a second. The action to adopt the higher rates was carried by a three-to-two vote, Mayor Klusman and Councilman Ludlow voting in the negative.

The principal differences in opinion between City Clerk Bartlett and Councilman Ludlow related to estimates of anticipated revenues, rather than in expense items, as both Bartlett and Ludlow stated they had pared expenses to the minimum. In addition to the regular government expenses, the adopted budget includes \$15,000 for completing the payment of the municipal park and another \$15,000 in unallocated funds in order to reduce borrowings at the bank at the end of the fiscal year. The city has advanced approximately \$9000 out of the general fund to finance water bond litigation. When the bonds are sold and the money returned to the general fund, it is planned to use this money to construct a fence bordering the extension of Cedar avenue through the General Petroleum property.

Mayor Klusman argued for a reduction of the budget by a further reduction of salaries paid to municipal employees. He stated that other cities were cutting wages and that in his opinion Torrance should do likewise. Councilman Conner answered Mayor Klusman by citing figures from nearby municipalities, and pointed out that city employees in Torrance are not receiving as much as municipal workers in other Los Angeles county cities. He submitted the following schedule of monthly salaries as evidence:

City Clerks	Salary
TORRANCE	\$200
Hawthorne	200
Compton	250
El Segundo	250
Manhattan Beach	250
San Gabriel	225
Maywood	200
Inglewood	275
Hermosa Beach	175
City Engineer	
TORRANCE	\$225
Hawthorne	175
Compton	250
El Segundo	250
Inglewood	250
Manhattan, Hermosa Beach and San Gabriel pay a percentage.	
Police	
TORRANCE	\$140
Hawthorne	145
Compton	190
El Segundo	160
Manhattan	200
San Gabriel	165
Hermosa Beach	145
Inglewood	145
Firemen	
TORRANCE	\$140
Hawthorne	135
Compton	175
El Segundo	150
Manhattan	150
San Gabriel	150
Maywood	150
Hermosa Beach	125
Inglewood	140

Councilman Conner also pointed out that the assessed valuation of Torrance and its incorporated area is a great deal larger than that of any of the above cities. By cutting city employees' salaries such as Mayor Klusman suggests, would only mean a saving of 36 cents per man on the tax bill of the average property owners in Torrance, Conner stated.

It was finally decided by a majority of the councilmen to retain the present schedule of salaries of Torrance municipal employees.

#### MASS MEETING TO START BIG EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN HERE

Speaker of National Repute to Address Torrance Citizens Next Thursday At City Ball Park On N. R. A. Subject

Now that the preliminary work of the campaign for the success of the N. R. A. is over with the appointment of officers to manage the local campaign, the big drive will get under way in Torrance at once.

A monster mass meeting, which every citizen in Torrance should attend and will want to attend, will be held next Thursday night, August 17, at the city baseball park, beginning at 7:30 p. m.

Harry W. Biddle, president of the Biddle Trade Bureau of Los Angeles, and chairman of the Industrial committee of the L. A. Chamber of Commerce, will be the speaker.

Mr. Biddle has just returned from a conference with the heads of the United States Chamber of Commerce at Washington, where he also had a personal interview with President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Hugh S. Johnson, administrator, and is well prepared to discuss the ramifications of the N. R. A. as well as the N. R. A. His message will be of supreme importance to every citizen in Torrance who are expected to turn out in large numbers to hear him.

Mr. Biddle recently spoke before the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce and is looked to appear at many other communities in the interest of the N. R. A.

Bert S. Lanz, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and general in charge of the local campaign, will act as master of ceremonies.

The mass meeting will mark the beginning of the intensive campaign in Torrance when a house to house, block by block canvass will be made to spread the gospel of the N. R. A. and educate the people to the terms and workings of this most important legislation.

There is to be no delay. The work must be done quickly and thoroughly. Every man, woman and child in the United States stands to win or lose with the success or failure of the N. R. A. for every home is affected by it.

Further announcement regarding the meeting will be made in these columns next Thursday.

#### Tentative County Budget Sets Up Funds For Local Institutions

Budget of the Torrance district of the bureau of county welfare calls for an expenditure of \$17,372 for salaries, according to the 1933-34 preliminary budget. Provision is made in the tentative budget which faces further paring by the board of supervisors when public hearings of 14 persons.

In the local district are three field visitors, four student visitors, two clerks, two stenographers and two typist-clerks.

Budgets set up for other districts of the county are as follows, for purposes of comparison: Adams, \$23,287; East Adams, \$27,258; Alhambra, \$27,756; Belvedere, \$24,209; Boyle No. 1, \$17,624; Boyle No. 2, \$19,137; Broadway, \$4581; Central, \$32,550; Compton, \$23,929; East Compton, \$30,133; Elysian, \$24,989; Harbor, \$21,293; Hollywood, \$32,297; Inglewood, \$24,087; Lincoln, \$26,396; Long Beach, \$50,000; Long Beach, \$28,000; Pomona, \$10,356; San Fernando, \$25,807; Santa Monica, \$26,085; North Vermont, \$26,810; South Vermont, \$21,446; Vernon, \$23,346; Vernon No. 2, \$16,860; and Whittier, \$23,379.

The county budget shows only \$1500 set up for the salary of the Lomita justice court, for the salary of the justice of the peace, at \$125 a month. Salary of one court clerk is set down at \$135 a month.

There is \$2253 set up for salaries of three deputies constable in the Lomita township, one of the three being an office deputy. Regular deputies draw \$140 a month in this township and the office deputy \$110 a month.

#### San Pedro Group Rebuffed In Its Plan For Delay

Grand Jury Not Interested In Complaints Against Outfall Sewer

Efforts of a disgruntled San Pedro group to interest the county grand jury in an investigation of the proposed construction of the White Point outfall sewer today were conceded to have utterly failed with a statement from the chairman of the health and sanitation committee.

"Further consideration will be tabled unless other matters are brought before the committee," Mrs. Dick Smith, chairman, stated following a brief appearance before the committees of Chairman John R. Quinn of the board of supervisors, and A. K. Warren, chief engineer.

The jury was told that more than a score of communities had been heard at the hearing on the controversy over whether a disposal plant should be built, or whether the outfall should be constructed. It was recounted to them that after the hearing was over a special committee made a report to the sanitation district directors, who decided to proceed with the outfall.

Public Hearings on Proposed Assessment Will Open August 11

With public hearings scheduled to open Friday, August 11, before the board of supervisors, the hope that the 88-cent general county tax rate would be maintained during the coming year had virtually vanished today.

But, while the 88-cent rate probably will be increased, despite the fervent hopes of a short-handed board of supervisors, the tax bills will not be higher but lower, according to Chairman John R. Quinn.

Reason for all this is the reduction in the assessed valuation of property, Quinn explained. It also is due to some extent to the damage wrought by the March 10 earthquake, which cut the assessed valuations of taxable property by just that much more—some \$6,000,000 in round figures, and mostly in Compton and Long Beach.

The increased tax rate will be necessary, as it appeared today, in spite of the fact that reductions amounting approximately to \$4,500,000 have been ordered within the past week, since the tentative budget was adopted several weeks ago. Six statisticians in the county bureau of efficiency have been burning midnight oil for the past two weeks trying to figure out where the cuts may be made. One of them is Olive View sanatorium, where a deadlock is reported to exist between Dr. W. H. Bucher, superintendent, and Supervisor Roger W. Jessup.

Today the county budget provides for raising \$36,112,698 in taxation, as against \$27,391,335 in last year's tentative budget. Last year's figure was reduced some \$8,000,000 to \$21,239,000 before it finally was adopted however.

The tremendous increase in the county's charity demands is the second reason for the increase in the 88-cent tax rate. The 1933-34 charity budget asks \$8,273,000 for general relief, as compared with the \$4,058,158 for 1931-32 and the \$4,313,000 for the first nine months of the year just closed.

The Los Angeles realty board has requested an early hearing on the 1933-34 budget, and last year vigorously fought any increases.

#### MILITARY ORGANIZATION TO PUSH NRA DRIVE HERE

All Civic Groups In Torrance Are Marshaled to Do Their Part In National Recovery Program

Hour by hour throughout the nation the giant machine of the President's Emergency Re-employment campaign is gaining momentum. Here in Torrance, as in every other city and town in the United States, the big drive to put men and women back on the payrolls at once is being speeded up to the limit of human possibilities.

This was the word that came today from B. W. Lanz, who, under the title of "General," is at the head of the smashing campaign to be staged in this city to rout the forces of unemployment and depression.

"Nothing so stirring and spectacular since the wartime days of 1917 has been attempted in this country," said Mr. Lanz, today. "For example, we are planning to make a house-to-house and block-to-block canvass throughout the entire city and vicinity, and the same mopping-up process will presently be under way in every part of this entire country. It certainly means tremendous organization effort to carry out such an undertaking, but the objective is well worth the effort."

"Of course," continued Mr. Lanz, "it would not be possible to carry out such an enormous task without systematic planning backed up by characteristic American enthusiasm. You know, there is just nothing beyond the power of the people of this country, once they catch the spirit of the thing and decide to put it over."

"Now, as to the way this big drive has been mapped out by the National Recovery Administration. In the first place, the organization has been set up along military lines, for if ever there was a war and a righteous one, it is this master offensive against unemployment. Heading the work in each state are a state chairman and a state woman chairman, both appointed by the governor of the state. These two, in addition to the chairman of the committees representing the principal cities of the state, and the state commissioner of labor, will constitute the state committee."

"The duties of these state committees are to make certain that every city in the state organizes and conducts a local emergency re-employment drive."

Local Committee

"Then we come to the city organization. The local committee, as I have said, is organized along strictly military lines, the leader being designated as 'General.' He, in turn, selects three colonels, each of whom is to have charge of a specific part of the campaign. For example, Colonel No. 1, will have charge of the man-power or organization department, and he is to appoint seven majors, more or less, depending on the size of the territory to be covered. Each major appoints seven or more captains, each of whom will organize and direct a company of eight or possibly more individual workers."

"Now, let me explain how we are dividing the work among these three divisions. It will be the job of Colonel No. 1, to conduct a block-to-block and, in reality a house-to-house canvass of the entire city, thus making a complete check-up on compliance with the President's emergency re-employment agreement. It will also be his job to make a complete survey of the unemployed, codifying them as to adaptability by experience to trades and industries and act as an intermediary or active agent in getting people into definite jobs. It will also be the duty of this group of workers to check on the proper use of the N. R. A. insignia by dealers and consumers."

Colonel No. 2 will, with his subordinate officers and workers, have a tremendous job on his hands, too, just as important, in fact, as that of Colonel No. 1. It

TURN TO STORY ONE Page 6

#### Many Workers At Veterans' Relief Get Other Jobs

Resumption of activities in the local factories has had a certain amount of effect in reducing the number of workers at the Veterans' Unemployment Association headquarters in Torrance, according to H. W. Beach, who has been making a survey of the list of workers in preparation for the 60-day experiment to be conducted by the federal government in determining how far the self-help units can go in sustaining themselves without additional help.

At the present time 136 heads of families are enrolled, of whom 95 are receiving county work orders to supplement their work at the unit headquarters. The 136 men are those who are working their regular quota of hours daily.

According to Mr. Beach, probably 50 to 75 men have been absorbed from the unit rolls into regular jobs at local industries during the last few weeks.