

# CITY CLERK EXPLAINS HOW TAX DOLLAR IS SPENT HERE

### Property Owners of Torrance With Average Assessment of \$1500 Pay \$1.20 Per Month to Keep City Business in Running Order

"Many people have asked me from time to time," said City Clerk A. H. Bartlett this week, "just how their tax money, paid in to the City of Torrance is divided. This is a question that deserves a fair answer, and in order to bring about a definite understanding of the division of the tax dollar in Torrance, I have prepared an analysis of the distribution of city taxes as paid by the average householder.

"I am taking as a basis for the calculation, a piece of property assessed at \$1500, which is an average valuation for property in Torrance. The tax for 1933-34, which has been fixed at 96 cents on each \$100 of assessed valuation, a piece of property valued at \$1500 would pay \$14.40 in taxes for the year or \$1.20 per month.

"The apportionment of this \$1.20 into the various departments of the city of Torrance is interesting, and I believe that the following set-up will show that the apportionment among them is equitable.

"The general government expenses amount to 11 cents out of the \$1.20 per month. It is distributed in salaries for the city clerk, city engineer, city treasurer, city attorney and the expenses of their respective offices. Also out of this 11 cents is paid election expenses, such as expenses for miscellaneous expense, repair of buildings, printing and publishing of legal notices required in city business, and general promotion.

"Protection of life and property, which includes police and fire departments, salaries and expenses of inspectors of buildings, compensation insurance, street lights and upkeep, hydrant rental, and the cleaning of vacant lots, which is required in keeping down fire hazards, costs 32.6 cents. It is the largest appropriation in the tax bill, and goes to pay for important services to the city.

"Health and sanitation, which are quite as important to the taxpayers, however, does not require a large personnel to run the department, and this service costs only four and one-half cents out of the taxpayers' \$1.20. It pays the salary and expense of the health officer, for garbage collection, sewer system, expense, and sewer connection labor and materials.

"Street department expenses include sidewalk and curb repair, city yard expense, salary of the street superintendent, general street expense, street repair labor and materials, cleaning, parking maintenance, unemployment fund, alley cleaning and repairs, and truck expense. All of this service takes but 21.4 cents out of the total.

"Park department, regular, includes the expense of keeping up the small parks about town, Arlington avenue park, and the expense of setting out trees, making lawns and general upkeep of this park and the new parkway on Torrance boulevard. One-tenth of the tax dollar, 12 cents, takes care of these items, and another 12 cents pays the contract price for the new park entered into by the Chamber of Commerce which is paid principally out of the 10-cent fund set up in the budget for parks, and advertising.

"Two cents covers extras in the way of street department police, fire and park department equipment, litigations, new sidewalks, new park expense and equipment, water system promotion, Christmas tree, fire truck, small building for use of the Girl Scouts, first aid and fire house repair.

"A contingent fund to provide for delinquent taxes and emergencies, requires 17 cents, out of the \$1.20, while interest and retirement of municipal bonds calls for seven and one-half cents.

"The total assessed valuation for Torrance this year is \$16,187,455, which is somewhat lower than last year's figure, bringing a corresponding reduction in the sum of taxes to the individual, although the tax rate for the year is higher than that of last year. County taxes are not itemized on the bills sent out as has been the custom in other years. Changes in rates have been made, in almost every item, some having been reduced and others increased. A comparison of the rates for 1932-33 and for 1933-34 show the following as paid by the resident of Torrance: City taxes, last year 83 cents, this year, 96 cents; Los Angeles county taxes as follows,

## Worries Cops



The revolver shown in the hands of Violet Pringle has Pacific coast police worried. It's a perfect imitation of a .32 caliber gun, save that the cylinder and barrel are drilled only halfway through and dummy cartridges are in one-half of the cylinder. Authorities ruled it was not a deadly weapon after one was taken from a suspect.

## Letters to the Editor

February 12, 1934.  
AMOUNT \$33.00.  
Mr. Beverly R. Smith, Chairman Torrance Birthday Ball for the President Torrance, Calif.

Dear Mr. Smith: It is with deep appreciation that we acknowledge receipt of your remittance, as indicated above, which represents the proceeds from The Birthday Ball for the President held under your direction.

We will take pleasure in including this contribution in the birthday gift which will shortly be presented to President Roosevelt and which he will, in turn, donate to The Georgia Warm Springs Foundation to be used by it for such purposes as he shall indicate. On behalf of the National Committee, I wish to take this opportunity to express to you and to your co-workers our real gratitude for the splendid leadership and help which you have rendered in connection with our efforts to make the national birthday party such a tremendous success. In the years to come, as the battle against infantile paralysis progresses, under the leadership of our President, I know that you will feel a just sense of gratification in having played such an important part in this worthy activity.

Sincerely yours,  
KEITH MORGAN,  
Treasurer National Committee on Birthday Ball for the President.

KM/w

the rate for last year being given first, this year's rate, second: City school district, \$1.80-\$1.19; county library fund, .04-.06; general fund, .88-\$1.20; flood control, .10-.15; Metropolitan water district, .04-.04; county sanitation district No. 5, .21-.25. Only one item remains unchanged on the tax bill, that being the levy for the Metropolitan water district. Reduction in the school tax is due to the change in the law whereby the state assumes the greater burden of cost. Increase in the general fund rate is due to reduction in assessed valuation of property in the county.

## Directory of the New Deal

Readers of periodicals who want to be informed on the list of government agencies under the "new deal" may clip out this article and paste it up somewhere. It is the complete alphabetical list of government agencies set up to carry out the recovery program.

- A.A.A.—Agricultural Adjustment Administration.
- C.C.C.—Civilian Conservation Corps; also Commodities Credit Corporation.
- C.W.A.—Civil Works Administration.
- C.W.S.—Civil Works Service.
- F.A.C.A.—Federal Alcohol Control Administration.
- F.C.O.T.—Federal Co-ordinator of Transportation.
- F.D.I.C.—Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.
- F.E.I.C.A.—Federal Emergency Relief Administration.
- F.E.S.B.—Federal Employment Stabilization Board.
- F.F.C.A.—Federal Farm Credit Administration.
- F.H.L.B.R.—Federal Home Loan Bank Board.
- H.O.L.C.—Home Owners' Loan Corporation.
- I.C.C.—Interstate Commerce Commission.
- N.A.C.A.—National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.
- N.E.C.—National Emergency Council.
- N.R.A.—National Recovery Administration.
- P.A.B.—Petroleum Administration Board.
- P.W.A.—Public Works Administration.
- R.F.C.—Reconstruction Finance Corporation.
- T.V.A.—Tennessee Valley Authority.
- A.C.C.—Agricultural Credit Corporation.
- C.S.B.—Central Statistical Board.
- D.L.B.—Deposit Liquidation Board.
- D.M.C.—Dairying Marketing Corporation.
- F.C.A.—Farm Credit Administration.
- F.N.H.C.—Federal Subsistence Homesteads Corporation.
- F.T.C.—Federal Trade Commission.
- N.L.B.—National Labor Board.
- S.A.B.—Science Advisory Board.
- S.R.C.—Surplus Relief Corporation.
- F.S.R.C.—Federal Surplus Relief Corporation and 15 subsidiary boards.
- F.E.H.C.—Federal Emergency Housing Corporation.

## VISITS WITH MOTHER

Miss Ruth Beckwith, teacher in Long Beach schools, visited over the week-end with her mother, Mrs. Melvina Beckwith, 1332 Engracia avenue.

do the Karl Shoe Stores sell over 100,000 pairs of shoes every Month? BECAUSE... thousands of people realize that by buying at Karl's they consistently get more for their money— BETTER SHOES LOWER PRICES BIGGER VARIETY

## Leather Oxfords



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Sturdy Shoes For Every Day Wear Sizes 8 1/2 to 2 99c

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An unusually sturdy shoe that is guaranteed to wear and wear! In black and brown \$1.99

## Boys' Oxfords

Size 2 1/2 to 5 1/2 A Dandy Calf Skin Shoe with Composition sole. Just what you need for the youngster who is hard on shoes \$1.99

## STORY 1

Continued from Page 1

reach the voters and a few persons are always inclined to spread misinformation for the effect it has on certain gullible listeners. Weigh every story you hear, ask for the facts and do your own thinking when you are sure you get the facts. One of the first stories to be circulated is that the same inspector is to inspect the new and reconditioned buildings as was employed to inspect the buildings which were seriously damaged by being poorly constructed. The gullible swallow it and even repeat it. The facts are these: The state division of architecture is the final inspector and any falsification of materials or reports in a felony. In addition to this the board of education, and the architect and engineer whose work was accepted are required to have inspections and all are finally subject to state approval. The following statements will explain more fully how this plan operates:

Thirty days after the March earthquake, there had been drawn, passed, by the state legislature, signed by the governor, and made effective, Assembly Bill No. 2342, commonly known as the Field Bill, which required that no school building may be erected or repaired (the cost to exceed \$1000) without the rigid inspection and approval, from beginning to completion, of the state division of architecture. This law has "teeth in it" for it makes the slightest variance from any of its provisions a felony. The Field Bill imposes obligations alike upon the division of architecture and upon boards of education. The former is charged with the direction and supervision of construction of any new building and alteration or addition costing more than \$1000; it shall pass upon, approve or reject all plans and specifications both for construction or reconstruction and make thorough inspection of all such work. Its engineers and inspectors must certify, of their own knowledge, materials used and their installation in strict conformity with plans and specifications previously approved by the state architect. Board of education are prohibited from adopting any plans for building until they have submitted such plans to the division of architecture and paid a moderate fee for thorough analysis. Written approval must be secured as to safety, both of design and construction, before letting any contract. The application must be accompanied by complete plans, specifications, structural design and computations, cost estimates and evidence of compliance with any and all other requirements of the division of architecture. Not only must this be done; boards of education are charged that such plans, specifications, and estimates are prepared by a certified architect holding a valid license or by a structural engineer holding a valid certificate or their efforts will be rejected. When the job itself begins, the architect or engineer whose work was accepted is charged with the supervision of the work and the school district must provide for and require competent, adequate,

## Armstrong Sisters Will Entertain At Bible Class Sunday

All men of Torrance and vicinity are invited to attend a special program to be presented by the Armstrong sisters of Gardena at the Torrance Theatre next Sunday morning, February 25, at 9:30 o'clock. The program is being sponsored by the Torrance Men's Bible class, Rev. George Elder, teacher.

This quartet of young ladies, vocalists and instrumentalists, are well known in Southern California as entertainers. They now make three radio broadcasts each week over three different stations, and continuous inspection during construction. These inspectors, in turn, shall be responsible to the architect or engineer and under his direction. They also must be approved by the division of architecture. Mail in your questions.

## HOSPITAL NOTES

Mrs. Mary Lindley, 2064 Redondo Beach boulevard, Redondo Beach, entered February 18 for a minor operation.  
Mrs. Ben Long, 15824 Cypress, Longita, is being treated this week for a fractured kneecap. The injury was received in a fall at her home.  
Mrs. Alice Mack, 233 South Irena, Redondo Beach, underwent an operation February 19.  
Mrs. Catherine Frye, 1245 Redondo Beach boulevard, Gardena, was operated for appendicitis February 21.  
**Births**  
To Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Fullmer, 2517 El Dorado, Torrance, a girl, February 18.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Yutaka Fukunaga, Moneta, a girl, February 18.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Merton D. Harlow, 207 Helberla, Redondo Beach, a boy, February 18.  
To Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Dreyer of Torrance, a girl, February 21.

# Now!---

## STAR FURNITURE CO.

### Has A Complete Firestone Tire and Tube Department

HERE'S real news for Torrance Motorists! We have a complete stock of Firestone Tires and Tubes available in our automotive section—and here is sensational news! We have them priced as low or lower than mail order house or special brand tires. Just think—Genuine Firestone Tires, brand new, at the Lowest Prices in Southern California.

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## To Celebrate the Opening of this New Department, We Are Offering

A Three-Day Sale of Firestone Sentinel Type Tires at Amazingly Low Prices. Take Advantage of This Today

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SIZE	Regular Price	SALE PRICE
4.40x21	\$4.98	\$4.00
4.50x20	5.40	4.55
4.50x21	5.65	4.70
4.75x19	6.05	5.15
5.00x19	6.48	5.50
5.00x20	6.70	5.70
5.25x18	7.30	5.20
5.25x21	7.95	6.70

Other Sizes Proportionately Low

Remember! Firestone Tires are guaranteed by the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company and ourselves. Don't take a chance on special brand tires without the name or guarantee of the manufacturer, when you can buy Firestone Tires from us at the lowest prices offered anywhere.

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The or follow: 5000 a y tower co operator, four; \$110 an subject t cent as and 3 1/2 annuity. Applicat ion as obtained of U. S. at Altu Chico, E Los Ang Sacrame San Lal Santa C and Val the For tional fr from th Civil Se Post Of ces. C. Applie complet district Califom of clod 1934.  
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