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TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1935

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Enrollment Is Steady

Total Figures For Torrance Schools Same As Last Year; Lomita Gains

With the first day of enrollment and assignment to classes behind them, pupils of the various schools in Torrance and Lomita settled down Wednesday to the routine work.

At the Torrance high school, the opening day, Tuesday, September 10, showed an enrollment of 692 pupils, an increase of 60 over last year's figures.

Huey Long Was Friend Of Mrs. Renn

While the death of Senator Huey P. Long, who succumbed early Tuesday morning, the victim of an assassin's bullet, was a shock to the entire nation, the news of his passing came as a personal loss to Mrs. Susie Renn, 1484 Post avenue.

Test Well To Be Cemented Off At 570 Feet

Excellent Progress on Water Wells Is Reported to Council

Acting City Engineer Herbert Summers told the council Tuesday night that progress at the pilot well on the city property is progressing very nicely.

Mr. Summers reported that a heavy clay was encountered at 45 feet, which will shut off any surface water, and that promising strata has been found at varying depths.

WHY AN AUDITORIUM?

Answering Those Who Are Not Fully Informed As To the Necessity Of a Municipal Auditorium

An Editorial

In discussing the proposed bond issue for the purpose of defraying the city's share of the cost of erecting public buildings in Torrance under the liberal offer of the public works administration, we find that the need of a new library and city hall is pretty generally conceded.

In this connection, we must realize that the high school auditorium which has been used in the past for public gatherings, was damaged beyond repair by the earthquake and will have to be torn down.

With this thought in mind, city officials have wisely optioned a municipal auditorium site directly across Manuel avenue from the high school property, so that if the auditorium bonds are approved, the building may be used for student activities as well as for adult gatherings.

As planned the municipal auditorium would have a seating capacity of 1200, and would include a large stage suitable for choruses, band or orchestra concerts, plays, etc.

Such an auditorium would promote civic pride and community harmony. It would be the hub around which could be built a finer and better civic spirit, a closer acquaintance and friendliness among local citizens which at present are sadly lacking.

With the federal government offering to pay approximately half the cost of materials and labor for the erection of such a civic asset, it seems wise to take advantage of the opportunity, especially when the cost to the individual home owner will be but a few pennies a month.

Fourth Supervisorial District Boundary Lines To Be Changed

Ordinance changing the boundary lines between the Fourth and the Third Supervisorial districts, and also between the Fourth and Second districts north of Compton, will be ready for adoption by the board of supervisors October 1, according to the county counsel's office.

Under the agreement reached between supervisors, Fourth district, which takes in Torrance and Lomita, will give up a small area of several blocks to the Second district in the northeast corner of the district, in Los Angeles city, and also would give the Second district some of the unincorporated area at the south end of Los Angeles city, and along the east side of the city.

The law specifies that any changes in boundary lines must be made within one year from date of the last general election, or by November 6, 1935. Since it requires 30 days for the ordinance to become effective, the supervisors plan to adopt it the first week in October, to forestall any "hitch."

Purposes of the changes is to equalize the registered vote in each district, according to the shifting population. The Fourth district has a high assessed valuation, due to Torrance industries, situated in Culver City, exclusive homes in Beverly Hills, Bel Air, Westwood, the Baldwin Hills and Venice, Del Rey and Torrance oil fields, the Standard Oil Company's huge refinery at El Segundo, and Los Angeles harbor, as well as millions of gallons of gasoline in huge storage tank farms in the southwest corner of the county.

CHILDREN PIECE QUILT A handsome pieced quilt, in variegated colors, is on display at the Chamber of Commerce this week, where all interested persons may examine it.

The annual picnic reunion of the former residents of Michigan will be held in Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles, all day, Saturday, September 21.

New Principal At Elementary Takes Charge

Former Colorado Man Has Long Experience in School Administration

Alex Verhusen, new principal at the Torrance elementary school, who took over the duties of his position here on Tuesday, is a school man of long experience and brings to his new work a sincere desire to be of service to the people of Torrance.

"I have heard much favorable comment about Torrance," Mr. Verhusen said, "its alert, progressive character, and also about the friendly, co-operative spirit of its people. I am sure that I shall enjoy my work here, and I hope that the people will be pleased with my efforts."

Mr. Verhusen is a native of Colorado, where for a number of years he taught in the junior and the senior high school divisions of Burlington. He has been in California for 12 years, superintendent of the Tweed school before it was taken into the Los Angeles city schools system, and principal over that school and the McNery school since that time.

Mr. Verhusen is of the modest, friendly type, who will no doubt be accorded the confidence and good will of the community when he becomes acquainted. He was formerly member of the Kiwanis club in South Gate, but due to a ruling of the school authorities which prevented him from attending noon luncheons, had to give up his membership there. He is a member of the Masonic lodge.

State Pension Law Effective On September 15

New Statute More Liberal In Providing For Aged Persons

Applications for old age aid, for persons entitled to the State Old Age benefits under liberalized terms of the amended state Security act, will be received Monday, September 16, from local residents at the local branch office of the county charities department at 2300 Carson street, Torrance, according to Rex Thompson, superintendent.

To facilitate making the applications, those seeking the old age benefits should have with them one or more of the following documents: It was explained.

For proof of age: Any of the following documents showing age—birth certificate, baptismal record, marriage license where age is given, naturalization records, passports, military service papers, showing age. A family Bible or other genealogical record also may be acceptable, as well as institutional records, court proceedings, insurance papers, lodge credentials, transcript of one registration as a voter at least five years prior to application, showing age.

For proof of residence: Continuous registration as a voter for the entire period of required residence. A single registration of 15 years ago will not establish continuity of residence.

Personal records including business papers, public records of any and all kinds or institutional records which definitely point to residence in the state for the required period also may be acceptable.

In addition to proofs of residence, applicant must give place of residence over the past fifteen years, showing county, city, street name and number, and dates of such residence. Children: Names, addresses, ages, marital status, occupations and household income of all children. Also the number of adult and minor children in households of the applicant's children.

Kettlers Ask Cash

Letter From Administrator of Estate Proposes Payment for Right of Way

Reasons for the delay in securing the deed to land in the Kettler ranch for street opening purposes came to light Tuesday night with the reading of a letter signed by John Kettler, administrator of the estate, which proposed a cash settlement to be paid the city. Price of \$2000 an acre was asked provided that Eselman avenue be extended on a straight line through the property and \$4,000 an acre should be conveyed to John with the end of Cabrillo avenue as had been proposed. About one and a half to two acres would be required.

According to Acting City Engineer Herbert Summers, who accompanied three of the Kettler heirs, including the administrator John Kettler, on a tour of the property proposed to be deeded to the city, the other two men expressed themselves as being unfavorable to the idea of having a street through the property.

With the receipt of this letter which may be intended as an offering for further negotiations, looking towards a sale instead of a grant from the heirs to the city, it appears that the prospect for extending Eselman avenue as a through highway is definitely doomed to long delay and probably to abandonment. For a number of months the city has negotiated with the Kettler heirs for a strip of land through the ranch, but has been unable to get possession of the deed although repeated assurances had been received that it would be granted.

On the death of Mrs. Annale Kettler, the situation underwent a change and the present proposal of a cash settlement is the latest development in the matter. The council ordered the letter filed and probably will take no further action unless later conditions warrant the re-opening of the question.

In addition to the cash settlement, the Kettlers stipulated that in the event the purchase was made and a highway built that the improvement should be made at no cost to the heirs. The council ordered the letter filed and probably will take no further action unless later conditions warrant the re-opening of the question.

Whereas, one of the functions of the Coordinating Councils is to stimulate the local community to face their responsibility for community conditions affecting the lives of children, and

Whereas, the Council is pledged to work with officials in order to make the community a better place in which to live;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Torrance Coordinating Council hereby endorse the proposed bond issue for the erection of a new City Hall and Jail, Municipal Auditorium, and Public Library.

The council also acted favorably upon the plan to establish in Torrance a toy loan project, which the fire department has been asked to sponsor. Under this project, all unused or broken toys are brought to the department, where they will be mended and loaned to needy children for varying periods. The plan has been used with great success in other communities.

Enthusiastic endorsement of the plan for developing an inland waterway connecting Los Angeles harbor with the Torrance industrial area was voiced Monday evening by Gustaf W. Olson, assistant superintendent of the Los Angeles County General Hospital, in an address at the Torrance Kiwanis Club.

"How Sweden Beat the Depression" was also explained by the speaker, who pointed out the fact that Sweden beat the depression by undertaking huge public works projects such as are now being put into effect in the United States.

Personal Injury Suit Is Deferred Trial of the \$50,000 personal injury suit brought by Helen Brodie, against Ruth, Mar, and Norman and Mrs. Ruth Blackhall, has been marked off calendar in Los Angeles superior court. The case was to have been tried last month, but is to be reset for trial at a later date.

Helen, age 9, was injured when struck by an automobile assertedly owned and driven by the defendant on Sartori avenue January 2, 1934.

MRS. INMAN former resident DIES MONDAY Funeral services were conducted at Stone & Myers chapel yesterday at 2 o'clock for Mrs. Lillian G. Inman, who passed away Monday, September 9, at a Los Angeles hospital after a short illness. Rev. B. H. Lingafooter conducted the services, which were followed by cremation at Pacific Crest.

Mrs. Inman was the wife of Charles Inman, who for several years was engaged in the grocery business in Torrance, located in the Brighton Hotel building on Cabrillo avenue. Mr. and Mrs. Inman removed from this city when they disposed of their business interests here.

At the Torrance elementary school, the enrollment on Tuesday was 638, a drop of 40 under last year's figure of 728. New teachers here are the principal, Alex Verhusen, Mrs. May Burns, and Miss Leary.

At Fern avenue, enrollment was not up to expectations, but was only slightly under last year. The total for Tuesday was 289 which is expected to be increased by the end of the week. Last year's enrollment was 278.

Only one new teacher is assigned to Fern avenue, Mrs. Margaret Bennett, B-1. Miss Cora Holt has been transferred to the Avalon boulevard school, and Mrs. Mary Bateman is taking a leave of absence. Others returning are Mrs. Oda Vans, principal, Mrs. Sabrey Hotkin, Mrs. Martha Cardwell, Miss Margaret Hollenbach, Mrs. Lily Johnson, Miss Esther MacDuff, Mrs. Lois McDonald, Mrs. Gladys Moon, Miss Etta Mowry and Miss Laura Thomas.

At Waverly, Miss Dorothy Smith, principal, reported an enrollment of 156, 12 under last year. Miss Elizabeth Chalker A-6, and Miss Judith Johnson, are new teachers. Miss Johnson replaces Miss Florence Shelly, who is on a leave of absence due to illness.

In Lomita Narbonne high school started the year with an enrollment of 387 as compared with 305 last year. Mrs. Mason, Mrs. Harry and Miss Colimero will replace Miss Holloway and Mrs. Grant in an exchange with San Pedro; Mrs. Flisk, nursing teacher, is taking a leave of absence and is replaced by Mrs. Bennett of Daverly Hills high school. Mr. Thurman replaces Mr. Steen, and will assist in the physical education department. Mrs. Melrose replaces Miss Wilson, and Mrs. Flowers has gone to San Fernando. Mrs. Sutford and Mrs. Schwartz are returning. Contrary to rumors current during the summer vacation, Ben Comrada, vice principal and physical education director will not be taken off the coaching duties, according to Miss Clementine de Forest Griffin, principal, but will continue to supervise the athletic program as usual.

At the Lomita elementary school, Miss Harriet Michaels reported an enrollment of 415, a decrease of 13 under last year. Mrs. Mary Paisley will have charge of the A-3 B-4 classes replacing Miss Marian Crittenden, and Mrs. Louise Kellogg will be in charge of the B-4 classes in place of Mrs. Sarah B. Romish.

No changes in teacher personnel were reported at the Orange street school, Miss Hilda Jellison, principal. Enrollment here was 333, an increase of five over last year.

Total enrollment for the two districts is Torrance 1895, and Lomita 1234. On the total Torrance lost but one pupil as compared with opening day figures last year, while Lomita gained 74.

Arson Trial Set For Next Monday With her trial on charges of arson and burning insured property scheduled for next Monday in Los Angeles county superior court, Mrs. Grace M. Taylor of Lomita will be confronted with a deposition taken during recent weeks and filed with the court this week.

Arrested several months ago, Mrs. Taylor was scheduled to go to trial last August 2 but absence of material witness necessitated a continuance, according to the district attorney's office.

The deposition filed this week was taken from Claudia Brant and E. E. Bryant, according to court records, and is to be produced in court.

Four New Homes To Be Built Building in Torrance took an upturn during the past week with the issuance of permits for four houses and a gasoline tank. The Dominguez Land Corporation will erect two stucco houses and garages to cost \$2,365 each on Marietta Heights, near the Pacific Electric shops. D. A. Polhemus secured a permit for a house and double garage costing \$6,400 at 1427 El Prado, adjoining the new home now being built by Dr. H. F. Bishop. The White Manufacturing Company will build a gasoline tank in the McDonald tract. James W. Shipman will build a three-room frame house to cost \$500 in the Villa tract, La Freza.

Sam Levy Takes Over Management Of Furniture Co. Sam Levy, pioneer merchant, announces that he has taken over the active management of the Torrance Furniture Company, 1214 El Prado. Customers for furniture are invited to open charge accounts at either the Torrance Furniture Company or the Sam Levy department store, Mr. Levy states.

JAIL LOOMS FOR violators of county DRUNK EDICT

So many cases have appeared before Judge Frank Carrell of the Garden division of the Inglewood township justice court recently, wherein SBRA workers or recipients of direct relief have been charged with drunkenness, that the judge has issued a warning. In the past such offenders have been leniently dealt with, but hereafter, in order to curb the practice of spending public funds on liquor, the judge will deal out a straight 30-day jail sentence. There will be no alternatives, no fines, no suspended sentences. All persons on relief, who are brought into court on a drunk charge will spend thirty days in jail. Judge Carrell handed out such a sentence to two defendants yesterday morning, and intends to continue until the practice in this section is broken up.

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Geophysical Crew Will Work In Torrance

Shell Oil Company to Conduct Strata Tests Within City Boundaries

Permission was granted at a meeting of the city council Tuesday night to the Shell Oil Company to operate a geophysical crew in the boundaries of Torrance. The work consists of drilling holes from 100 to 150 feet deep and exploding small charges of dynamite in order to study the structure of the ground in this section. This territory in which the work will be done will be bounded by Riverside-Redondo boulevard on the north, Western avenue on the east, Redondo Beach city limits on the west and a line through the center of the Pacific Electric Company's 125-acre tract in this city on the south.

Further stipulation was made that no drilling or blasting be conducted nearer than 2000 feet from any water wells owned by the city of Torrance. Permission was asked from the council since the work will be done in the city limits and some of the holes will probably be drilled on the road-sides or beside paved streets, although the Shell Company states that no holes will be drilled close enough to damage paving or curbing, and the company assumes all liability for any legitimate damages.

Since the charges of dynamite are very small no damage to property in the vicinity are anticipated and the holes will be filled up immediately after the tests have been made.

Band Concert Sunday Afternoon Torrance Municipal Band under direction of John Watson will present the following program in the city park Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p. m. Those who attended the last program have looked forward to another program which will include many of the world's most loved band pieces. The following numbers will be played: "March," "Washington Overture," "Gavotte," "Poet and Peasant," "Supper," concert waltz, "Danube Waves," "Iranovic," medley, "Memories of Ireland," "Hayes," gems from "Robin Hood," Weigand; patrol, "American," Meacham; (intermission) overture, "Lustspiel," Keler Bela; descriptive, "A Hunting Scene," Bucalpa; (by request); suite, "Dances from Henry VIII," German; Finale, "Campus Memories," Serey; Star Spangled Banner.

State Picnics The annual picnic reunion of the former residents of Michigan will be held in Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles, all day, Saturday, September 21.

CHILDREN PIECE QUILT A handsome pieced quilt, in variegated colors, is on display at the Chamber of Commerce this week, where all interested persons may examine it. A special invitation is extended to the mothers of little girls from 7 to 14 years of age, to see the work. The quilt was made by a group working under the direction of Mrs. Annie Wilson at the city park this summer. Not all the recreation hours were spent in play, as the work on this quilt shows.

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SCOUT LEADER to speak tonight AT ROTARY Oscar Kirkham, member of the Salt Lake City Rotary club and regional secretary of the Boy Scouts of America, will address the Torrance Rotary club tonight. Local scoutmasters have been invited to attend as guests of the club, according to President George P. Shidler. Six new members who will be taken into the club tonight are announced; James Howe, Raymond Casey, DeKalb Spurlin, John Rogers, George Fritts, and H. Glen Babcock.

TURN TO STORY ONE Page 3