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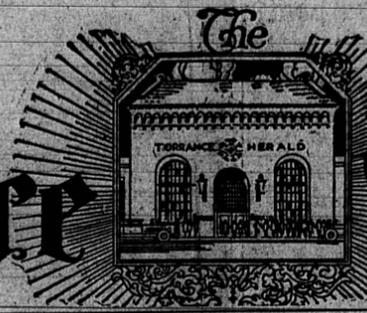
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Only Newspaper Published In Torrance



Torrance Herald

Consolidated Edition of Torrance Herald & Lomita News

Two Sections
12 Pages
This Issue

TWENTY-FIRST YEAR—No. 47. TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1935. PER COPY 5c

REFINERY IS NEGOTIATING TO BUY WATER

Prospects Bright For Supplying General Petroleum With City Water

Officials of the General Petroleum Corporation are considering the advisability of purchasing water for the company's huge refinery here from the municipal water district of Torrance as soon as the new water plant is completed, it was revealed this week at the city hall.

Should the negotiations now being conducted between City Engineer F. R. Leonard, water department manager, and G. P. officials result in a contract to supply the refinery with water, it would greatly increase the earnings of the water department it was pointed out.

The city now has two good water wells, commented Mr. Leonard. The first well drilled is now completed and has a production capacity of 1,600 gallons a minute. The second well, which is not yet on production, promises to be equally as big, said Mr. Leonard. Either one of these wells will produce two or three times the present combined consumption of the water district and the General Petroleum refinery, it is stated.

Construction of the new water plant is being pushed. Contracts for additional units in the storage and distributing system have been approved by officials of the Public Works Administration and are scheduled to be awarded at tonight's city council meeting.

Church Bazaar Is Planned For December 7

Episcopal Church Will Serve Fine Dinner and Offer Entertainment

Monday evening, December 7, is the date selected for the Episcopal church bazaar, which will be held in the Woman's Club clubhouse, 1422 Engracia avenue. A dinner, such as the Episcopal ladies are noted for, will be served starting at 5:30 o'clock.

Following the dinner a program of entertainment will be given, and all the features of a bazaar will be offered. Hand-made articles, suitable for gifts, will be on sale, and an added feature of interest will be the auction of handkerchiefs and letters from foreign lands.

Some time ago letters were sent to foreign missions asking them to send a handkerchief to the local church. A number of them have responded, and these handkerchiefs with the accompanying letter from the mission will be sold to the highest bidder.

A small admission fee of ten cents will be charged at the bazaar, dinner will be served at 50 cents per plate. Tickets may be purchased now from any member of the church.

Young Man Dies At L. A. Hospital

Ollie M. Stitts, age 28, residing at 2606 Pennsylvania avenue, Lomita, passed away Monday, November 18, at the General hospital, Los Angeles, after a short illness. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram D. Stitts, and had resided in Lomita for 17 years. Funeral services were held Wednesday, November 20, from Stone & Myers chapel in Torrance, followed by interment at Roosevelt Memorial Park.

He is survived by his parents, three sisters, Mrs. L. R. Rutherford, Mrs. A. W. Horn and Miss Lorraine Stitts, and one brother, John Stitts.

School Bond Issue Carries In District

Torrance and Lomita voted heavily in favor of school district bonds, joining with other sections in putting over the issue whereby the district will raise its share of funds for replacing unsafe and damaged school buildings. Three precincts were established in Torrance, at the high school, Fern avenue school, and at 1544 Marcelina avenue.

The vote at these precincts was as follows:

- High school—For elementary schools, yes, 162; no, 42; for high schools, yes, 164; no, 41.
- At Fern avenue—For elementary schools, yes, 145; no, 50; for high schools, yes, 145; no, 51.
- At 1544 Marcelina avenue—For elementary schools, yes, 138; no, 26; for high schools, yes, 135; no, 28.

In Lomita the total vote of all precincts including Harbor City was—For elementary schools, yes, 624; no, 171; for high schools, yes, 628; no, 171.

Oil Man Is Caught In Bandwheel

Harry H. Grimes, employed for a number of years as a derrickman at the C. C. M. O., was seriously injured about 9 o'clock Tuesday night when he was caught in a band wheel while at work on a rig on the C. C. M. O. property. He received a dislocated shoulder, three broken ribs, broken jaw and friction burns on his face. Several teeth were knocked out.

Grimes was taken to the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital where he received first aid and was then removed to the Santa Fe hospital in Los Angeles. He is getting along as well as can be expected. He resides at 838 North Lucia, Redondo Beach.

GAMBLING SQUAD raids businesses IN LOMITA

Sheriff's deputies of the gambling squad swooped down in Lomita recently and took three men and two women into custody on charges of operating punch boards. The five were arraigned before Judge Frank Carrell of the Inglewood township justice court at Gardena, on November 18. A verdict of guilty was obtained in each case, and fines imposed on the following:

- Joe Schmelldorfer, 2172 Redondo-Wilmington boulevard, \$25; or 12 days; \$20 suspended and \$5 paid; Mary Shaw, 2238 Redondo-Wilmington boulevard, the same fine, \$15 or seven days suspended, and a stay until November 20 allowed for payment of the balance; Sophie Harrison, 2301 Redondo-Wilmington boulevard, received the same sentence; C. J. Long, 2173 Redondo-Wilmington boulevard, \$25 or 12 days, \$15 or seven days suspended, \$10 paid; Robert Millett, 1948 Redondo-Wilmington boulevard, the same fine and suspension, \$10 paid.

Casing to Be Set In Second Well

Perforated casing to the depth of 540 feet will be set in the second water well on city property west of Cedar avenue, starting tomorrow, according to City Engineer Frank Leonard. The well was drilled to 601 feet, but on account of the quicksand formation found in the last 100 feet the well will be cemented off above the total depth. Work of cleaning out and pumping will probably be in some time next week.

HEART ATTACK IS BROUGHT ON BY EXERTION

J. M. Galien Dies Suddenly Monday While Trying to Catch Grazing Horses

A heart attack, brought on by over-exertion, caused the death Monday afternoon of James Monroe Galien, age 69, who resided with his sister, Miss Matilda Galien, at 1653 West 221st street in the Shoestring strip. Galien had gone to round up his team of horses which had been turned out to graze in the fields east of Western avenue near his home. The strain of running after them brought about a collapse, and Galien fell near an oil derrick on the Standard Oil lease, where an oiler by the name of Schafer was working. Schafer went to his assistance, but Galien was already beyond aid, and the oiler summoned Torrance police.

The body was removed to Stone & Myers mortuary, and from there was taken to the Mottel mortuary in Long Beach, where Galien's three sons reside.

Funeral services were held at 10 o'clock this morning at Angelus Abbey. Neighbors of Galien served as pall bearers. They were H. A. Orcutt, Charles E. Theobald, Henry March, Thomas Liveris, Ryan O'Kane and Mr. Ford.

Galien had resided here for the past four years. He was employed as a teamster by the Standard Oil Company, and also farmed a small tract in the vicinity of his home.

99 Year Old Patient Enters Hospital

Nurses and staff at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital are giving special attention this week to a patient who entered today for rest and treatment for a slight cold. The patient, who has aroused much interest at the hospital, is John Robinson, of Redondo Beach, who gave his age as 99 years. The hospital staff is accustomed to dealing with patients of all ages, from newborn up, but this is the first time in the history of the institution that they have been called on to take care of one who lacks but a few months of rounding out a century of life.

Mr. Robinson, according to his attendants, would pass for a much younger man, and except for his slight infirmity at present, is unusually vigorous.

Child Recovers From Lockjaw

Little Jimmy Webb, 3 1/2-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Webb, 1910 Plaza del Amo, is recovering at the General hospital from an attack of lockjaw, which developed from a slight wound in the child's hand caused by a splinter. The boy was taken to the hospital three weeks ago and will have to remain there for probably a month longer.

CAR BURNS

A Ford coupe owned by W. Austin, caught fire and burned Sunday at Post and Sartori avenues. The fire department was called to extinguish the blaze, said to have been caused by a judicious investigation with a lighted match.

MRS. TORRANCE IMPROVING

Mrs. Jared Sidney Torrance, of Pasadena, who entered the Good Samaritan hospital several days ago for an operation, is improving.

Library Site Debated

Plan Offered to Purchase Half of Park Corner; No Argument On Aud. Site

No agreement has been reached among city councilmen for the location of the new public library building, it was apparent from discussions held this week between members of the council and other citizens. However, it seemed to be pretty generally agreed that the large north-west corner of Cravens and El Prado should be purchased for the municipal auditorium. This property has a frontage of 130 feet on El Prado and 155 feet on Cravens. It is offered for \$8,000, which is conceded to be a bargain, particularly in view of the fact that it was sold a few years ago for three times this price.

However, there is much discussion, pro and con, regarding the purchase of the library site recommended by the Committee of Forty. This property lies across the park from the city hall and opposite the auditorium site on Cravens. It measures 160 feet on El Prado and 125 feet on Cravens and is owned by M. B. Korman, of Los Angeles, who submitted a bid of \$15,000 through a local dealer. However, it is stated that this price may be reduced to \$12,500, and it is believed by some city officials that this figure may be scaled down still further.

Among the plans most favorably discussed is to purchase half of the frontage on El Prado, which is sufficient for the library building. A further saving could be realized by buying only half of the lot adjoining the city hall site, which would be sufficient for garages to serve the city hall and jail. Advocates of this plan point out that by so doing, the outlay for land acquisition would come within \$3,000 of the \$10,500 allocated by the city for purchase of building sites. This additional \$3,000 could be paid out of the library fund, it is reported.

In this manner, the civic center idea would be realized and the purchase price of the land brought nearer to the original amount allocated by the city in its application to the Public Works Administration. Of course, no definite action can be taken by the city council in purchasing property until official approval is given the PWA grant.

One Ticket In Thirty-Five Years Of Driving Is Buxton's Record

Thirty-five years ago, B. C. Buxton, prominent real estate man, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, was arrested. Think of it, arrested, in the great city of New York, for the dreadful crime of speeding, 30 miles an hour, in his new fangled gas buggy.

So deep was Mr. Buxton's chagrin at this unfortunate occurrence, he has been trying to live it down ever since, and from that day to this, he has led an upright driver's life. Buxton has atoned for that early day slip, and in the 35 years that have passed since the cop flagged him down and handed him the fatal ticket, he has never had a summons to court.

Buxton's slate is clean, though motor cars have vastly outmoded his ancient gas buggy and the speed limits have been raised again and again. He has driven in 38 states in the Union, with never a blot on his fair driver's name.

How many drivers are there in Torrance, who can point with pride to an equal record? How many are there, who can surpass it? B. C. Buxton would like to know. The neighbors would like to know. The Torrance Herald would like to know, and invites all you drivers to send in a statement of the number of years you have driven and the number of tickets you have received in that time. The Torrance Herald aims to find out one of two things.

Whether there is such a driver in the city who can outdo Buxton's record, or one who can toy with the truth in such a manner as to indicate that he has surpassed it.

Thirty-five years of driving with only one ticket to account for is a pretty slick record.

Send in your nomination to the hall of fame. There are no prizes to be awarded in this contest. Just the satisfaction of having your perfections made known.

Concert By Symphonic Orchestra Tuesday Is Artistic Success

The Torrance Symphonic orchestra gave its first concert of the season Tuesday evening at the Woman's Club clubhouse, with Neena Gifford, soprano, as soloist. The program opened with the "Jolly Robbers" overture, which was given a brilliant and spirited rendition. The two highlights of the program were the "Suite" by German, and the "Andante" from the Surprise Symphony by Haydn. These were done with excellent interpretation and style.

The "La Traviata Fantasie," "Tchaikowsky Waltz" and "Under the Double Eagle" march were much enjoyed.

The Torrance orchestra, under the leadership of George N. Mershon, plays surprisingly well. Their attack is good and they play with spirit and color. The group is fortunate to have a conductor such as Mr. Mershon.

TURN TO STORY ONE
Page 3

Two Issues Next Week

Two issues of the Torrance Herald & Lomita News will be published during Thanksgiving week—the first issue to be distributed early Tuesday morning, November 26, and the second issue at noon Friday.

Food stores and other merchants are planning attractive pre-Thanksgiving values to be advertised in the Tuesday morning issue. The Friday noon editions will contain week-end offerings. The usual complete distribution will be given both the Tuesday and Friday editions. Watch for them before breakfast Tuesday morning, and shortly after lunch Friday.

Carrier boys are requested to report at 6 a. m. Tuesday and at 1 p. m. Friday. The Herald office will be closed all day Thursday.

YOUNG WOMAN WILL RECOVER FROM WOUND

Miss Betty Smith At Hospital Following Alleged Suicide Attempt

Miss Betty Jane Smith, age 28, is at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital, suffering from an alleged self-inflicted gunshot wound, from the effects of which, however, the girl will recover. The bullet, fired into her chest, struck a rib and glanced around her body, coming out under the shoulder.

The shooting took place about noon today at the home of H. D. Stitts, 28006 Pennsylvania avenue, Lomita. Miss Smith, whose mother, Mrs. Lizzie Oliver resides at 1222 15th street, Hermosa Beach, had come to the Stitts home several days ago accompanying Ollie D. Stitts, who was gravely ill and later passed away. Stitts had been working in Arizona, when he was stricken.

The girl, who is comparatively a stranger to the members of the Stitts household, as they stated they had known her only a few days, remained after funeral services had been held. Her motives for the rash act, were probably contained in a note she left, but the contents of which were not revealed. According to the members of the Stitts family, Miss Smith was apparently in ill health, which combined with grief at the death of the young man, brought about her asserted attempt to take her life.

Owner of Theatre Dies

Patrons of the Lomita Theatre found the house dark Sunday evening, due to the death that day of the proprietor, Frank A. Gumm, known more generally by the name of Frank A. Garland, a name taken for business reasons, who had passed away in Los Angeles after a very brief illness.

Mr. Garland came to take charge of the Lomita Theatre last May. He had been engaged in theatre management for the past 20 years, for eight years in Lancaster, from which city he transferred his business interests to Lomita, and prior to that for 12 years in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

He was the father of the Three Garland Sisters, well-known vaudeville song and dance artists, who made some personal appearances at Lomita when Mr. Garland took over the management.

St. Cecilia Guild Holds Unique Party

One of the season's most interesting parties was the progressive bridge given by ladies of St. Cecilia guild of St. Andrew's Episcopal church Wednesday evening. Twenty-five tables were in play, winners moving from each house. Five tables were in play all evening at the homes of Mrs. L. H. Delinger, 1613 Cota avenue; Mrs. G. P. Shidler, 1448 Post avenue; Mrs. G. B. Worcester, 1517 El Prado, and Mrs. Willis M. Brooks, 1328 Bortola avenue.

At the completion of the games all assembled at the guild hall on Engracia avenue, where refreshments were served. The serving table was decorated with a gorgeous center-piece arranged by Mrs. Harriet Leech. Trophies were awarded for high scores in bridge. Ladies' first was captured by Mrs. R. Lockwood, second by Mrs. Hugh Barnes and consolation by Mrs. Baker Smith. Men's first to

Child Hit By Auto Has Broken Leg

Doris Wilkes, eight years old, who was playing in the alley between Post and Engracia in the rear of 1326 Engracia avenue Friday, was knocked down by a passing automobile and was taken to the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital where she received treatment for a fracture of her right leg just above the ankle.

The driver of the car, a gray Plymouth sedan, apparently did not know that he had hit the child and drove on in the direction of Manuel avenue. Doris is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Wilkes, 2019 Gramery avenue, and was visiting a little friend on Engracia avenue at the time of the accident.

Drilling For Oil Near Harbor

Ed McAdams, independent oil operator, has taken a lease on 240 acres of land in the Palos Verdes foothills, north of the Union Oil Company's tank farm and refinery property on the rim of the west basin at the harbor and will sink a test hole there at once. The property is a portion of acreage owned by Frank A. Vanderlip, of the Palos Verdes Estate. The territory to be tested, says the Wilmington Journal, is an obscure parcel, which after being brought to the attention of geologists, was declared to be an excellent prospect for oil.

The first well, to be known as the McAdams No. 1, will be located two and one-half miles south of the Torrance-Lomita oil field. Production is expected at a depth between 3,500 and 5,000 feet. The formation is expected to correspond to that of the Signal Hill field.

McAdams has organized a small group of associates to operate his company, known as the McAdams Exploration Company.

TORRANCE MAN chosen councilman AT REDONDO

Richard S. Jenkins, operator of the Shell oil station on Cabrillo avenue in Torrance, was appointed a member of the Redondo Beach city council from the second ward this week in a surprise move of the Redondo city council. Mr. Jenkins was formerly employed at the National Supply Company and is well known in Torrance.

Jenkins' appointment came out of a clear sky after councilmen had been asked to consider the appointment of Michael H. Moore, former city councilman, or Floyd Roberts, whose term as mayor was cut short by the charter election a year ago. Both men were supported by petitions bearing the names of several hundred residents.

Madrigal Singers Will Broadcast

Torrance high school Madrigals, a capella choir, will be heard in a radio broadcast over a Los Angeles station at an early date, says Ray Davis, high school Herald correspondent. The arrangements were made by Jack Piper, president of the Madrigal Society. Announcement of the date and station will be made later so that all Torrance residents who wish to hear the broadcast may do so.

Baker Smith, second to Lewis Fernley and consolation to Elmer Patterson.

The committee in charge of this affair was Mmes. G. W. Worcester, G. P. Shidler, L. H. Deinger and Luise Jensen.

STILL NO WORD FROM CAPITOL ON PWA GRANT

Construction Bids For New Buildings to Be Opened At Council Tonight

At 2 p. m. this afternoon, Torrance city officials were still awaiting word from Washington regarding the PWA grant necessary to erect the new city hall, auditorium and library buildings.

However, word has been received from unofficial sources close to the situation, that the Torrance grant has been approved by Secretary Ickes and only President Roosevelt's signature is required, which is considered a routine matter, as naturally, the President relies on the advice of subordinates regarding such matters.

Bids for constructing the new buildings will be opened by the city council at 8 p. m. tonight. Following the usual procedure, it is expected that the contractors' proposals will be referred to the city engineer for checking. After the city selects the bids it wishes to accept, it is necessary to refer them to PWA engineers before contracts can be let.

However, no delay is anticipated in securing prompt approval from PWA engineers, as they have already gone over the plans and specifications and everything is in readiness to start work immediately as soon as the federal grant is signed by President Roosevelt and the building sites are acquired.

Bond bids

Representatives of bond houses will return tonight to re-submit their bids to the city council for the purchase of \$85,000 in municipal bonds recently passed to defray the cost of the new buildings. This money, together with the \$54,585 to be contributed by the federal government will be used to erect the buildings and purchase the necessary land.

Bond bids were originally called for November 12, but were returned by the city unopened awaiting the approval of the PWA grant. On recommendation of James L. Beebe, bond expert, the council met again on November 15 to receive bids. However, as the long expected word from Washington had not been received as anticipated by Mr. Beebe, the Friday meeting was adjourned until tonight.

In the event word from Washington is not received by the time the council meets tonight, it is anticipated that bond buyers will again be asked to submit their bids at a later date.

Civil Service Ordinance Up For Criticism

Sharp criticism of certain sections of the city's civil service ordinance was expressed by Lyle Delsley, personnel expert of Chicago, at an informal discussion yesterday afternoon with members of the Torrance civil service commission and members of the city council's police and fire committee. Mr. Delsley was introduced to the group by Richard Graves, executive secretary of the California League of Municipalities, under whose auspices Mr. Delsley is touring the state.

Mr. Delsley particularly attacked the sections of the Torrance ordinance by which the city council surrenders its control in appointing department heads.

PLANT EXTENSION

Permit for a \$700 extension to their plant was issued yesterday at the city engineers office to the Coast Insulating Company.