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Miniature Earthquakes Detect Fields Of Oil and Gas In Southern California



City Treasury Replenished By Tax Money

Installation of Taxes Credited to Torrance This Week

Another \$13,790.72 in municipal taxes levied for 1935-36 was credited on the books of the city treasurer of Torrance this week, following receipt of the second apportionment of municipal taxes from the county tax collector, which acts as collection agent for 38 cities in the county.

Still another apportionment will be made the latter part of the month, and a final apportionment of the first installment taxes will be made early in January, according to James L. Lowery, chief clerk of the accounting division.

The clerical staff of several dozen persons in the office of County Tax Collector H. L. Byram still is engaged in opening the thousands of letters containing remittances for taxes, mailed before the December 5 deadline. It is estimated it will be the first week in January before all contents of the envelopes are credited to the proper individuals making the remittances.

A total of some \$2,900,000 was apportioned to the 38 cities, school districts and special districts, including special assessment areas, in the second installment. Los Angeles of course received the larger amount, \$724,125.64.

The Metropolitan water district received \$103,792 from taxpayers in Los Angeles and nine other cities in Los Angeles county on the second apportionment. Of the various tax rates this year in the county, that of the Metropolitan water district shows the greatest increase, amounting to 100 percent, or a jump from 10 to 20 cents.

Dentist's Estate Left to Widow

Letters testamentary to the estate of her late brother, Dr. Walter F. Hammond, were sought in a petition filed in Los Angeles superior court this week by Mrs. Maud Hammond Welch, of Torrance.

The estate consists of dental equipment, office furniture and personal effects, it was stated, all of which were bequeathed to the widow in San Francisco.

Dr. Hammond died last December 10. Mrs. Welch resides at 1604 Juniper avenue, according to the petition filed in her behalf by Attorney Torrance C. Welch, of Torrance.

Lights Guide Worshipers BRIGHTON, Eng. (U.P.)—When the green light is showing—sit! That is the rule which now governs the seating accommodation at the Union Congregational church in Brighton, where a system of control has been devised by the minister.

FAMOUS EVENTS The British captured Fort Niagara December 19, 1814. Washington went into winter quarters at Valley Forge, 1777.

Miniature earthquakes—so slight that they can be noticed within a radius of only a few feet—are now being used by scientists for the detection of hitherto unknown fields of oil and natural gas in California.

Sensitive seismographs record the earth vibrations caused by the explosion of small charges of dynamite in shallow holes. Skillful interpretation of the seismographic records brings to light definite information on whether or not untapped fields of oil and natural gas may lie far beneath the surface.

This modern method has been found extremely valuable in instances where there were no surface geophysical indications that oil or natural gas is to be found in that locality. Recent discoveries of new fields by means of these scientifically planned miniature earthquakes include new fields at Mountain View, Buena Vista Lake and Semitropic, all of which are in the San Joaquin valley.

A comprehensive program of natural gas pipeline construction is now being undertaken by gas companies in Southern California to tie in these important newly-discovered gas and oil fields in the San Joaquin valley with main transmission lines which transport this modern fuel over 200 miles from Kettleman Hills to Los Angeles, according to J. F. Murray, division manager of the Southern California Gas Company.

"Projects costing nearly three-quarters of a million dollars and employing several hundred men are scheduled for completion within the next two months," Mr. Murray said. These will augment the already adequate supply provided by existing transmission facilities for peak demands in Southern California during the coming winter and for the future.

One line will tie in the Mountain View field with the main trunk line near the Grapevine.

New Chairman Of Boy Scout Work Is Named

Torrance Representatives Meet With New Harbor District Chief

Donald Monroe, for 20 years interested in Scout work in New York, and member of the New York council, has been transferred to California to take charge of the work in the harbor district. Mr. Monroe met with members of Torrance organizations which sponsor Scout troops at a luncheon at the McKinley Inn Monday, where a reorganization of personnel for Torrance took place, and plans were made to bring back Scouting to its former high level here.

Meeting with Mr. Monroe were Frank Buffington and Dr. R. A. Bingham of the Rotary Club, Robert L. Lewellen of the Kiwanis Club and Tony Figueredo of the Moose lodge.

Mr. Buffington was appointed chairman of Scout work in Torrance and Lewellen was named district commissioner, succeed-

Local Girls Are Gold Seal Bearers

Alice Burger, of Torrance, and Jane Louise Byham, of Lomita, are included among the 157 students now enrolled at the University of Southern California who are California Gold Seal Bearers for superior scholarship in high school, according to Theron Clark, registrar at the Trojan institution.

Ing W. T. Jones who has moved from the city. Buffington will represent Torrance on the Los Angeles council.

Numerous plans were discussed for increasing troop membership and bringing about greater interest in the work among the boys of Torrance. Three or four new troops will be organized.

Torrance will take over the management of its own Scout affairs, co-operating with Mr. Monroe in the general management.

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