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MAYOR Here 25 Years

THREE T'S LINKED TO COMMUNITY



RETURNED... as president of the Torrance Woman's club for a second term by acclamation was Mrs. Lillian Barrington.



NO. 1 CITIZEN... Mayor William H. Tolson's administration has been characterized by thorough attention to all civic duties, progressive legislation.

THIS city was less than two years old when Tolson, trucking and Torrance became three links that have remained unbroken for more than a quarter of a century. Despite war, depression and vicissitudes of life, Tolson, trucking and Torrance have continued an association which today includes a high type of public service.

William H. Tolson, who became mayor here in February, 1937 (after being elected to the city council in April, 1934) was responsible for forging the first link in that chain. He was instrumental in bringing his parents and three brothers to Torrance from Huntington Beach in July, 1913, when he was but 18 years old.

"There was a man in the trucking business here then but he wanted to sell out," Mayor Tolson, a native of Texas recalls. "I had saved up a little money so I bought his team and wagon. My father, J. S. Tolson, helped me run it but in 1914 I went back to Huntington Beach for about a year and a half. My father and brothers continued to run the business."

Heard Bomb Kill Crossland

The brothers Tolson are well-known here altho H. M. (Mose) now lives near Parker, Ariz., where he operates the Santa Fe Truck company. Claude is employed at the National Supply company and Curtis is a member of the local police department. Mayor Tolson is now associated with the M and M Trucking company.

On his return from Huntington Beach, William H. Tolson re-entered business with his father. He enlisted in the Army April 26, 1917—just 20 days after the U. S. entered the World War—and served as a cook in the 316th Engineers, 91st Division.

"I heard the bomb drop that killed Bert S. Crossland of Torrance, for whom the local American Legion post is named," Tolson said recently. "He was with

William Klusman, 1932-33; Scott R. Ludlow, 1933-34; William H. Stanger, 1934-37; William H. Tolson, 1937.

the Military Police. One rainy evening in October, 1918, about 7 o'clock near Woregham, Belgium, we heard a German flying over—we could distinguish between enemy and Allied planes by their sound—and it began dropping bombs. One landed about 200 feet from where I was working as a cook. A few minutes later we heard that a bomb had struck an M. P. cook house, killing another cook. Later I learned the victim was Bert Crossland."

Efficient Management

Discharged at the San Francisco Presidio in May, 1919, Tolson came back to Torrance and re-entered the trucking business. He was married to Isabell Woodward, whose parents came to this city in 1916, at San Dimas, Sept. 17, 1919.

They have two children, Bob, 17, and Billy eight. Mayor Tolson is a member of the American Legion. His administration has been characterized by efficient city management with the result that Torrance has made unusual progress as a municipality during the past four years.

Mayor's Clock Tower Project is 'Lost Hope'

One proposal for a civic improvement, made by Mayor William H. Tolson about a year ago drew such scant interest that His Honor dropped it at once.

This was for a clock tower to be erected at the Cravens street frontage of El Prado park.

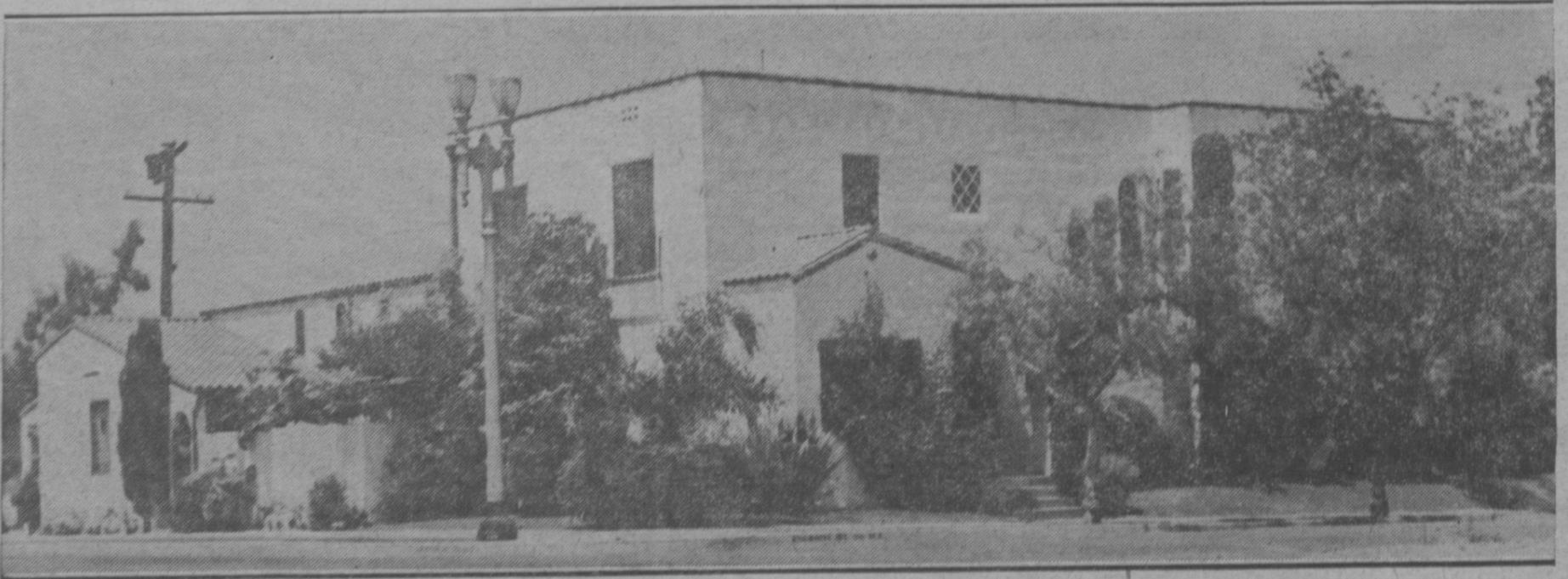
The Mayor still maintains that it would have been a decorative addition to the civic center but he has never pushed the project to a council decision.

NINE MAYORS SERVE CITY

Torrance has had nine mayors since its incorporation in 1921. They were:

George A. Proctor, 1921-22; J. M. Fitzhugh, 1922-23; Wallace H. Gilbert, 1923-24; R. R. Smith, 1924-26; John M. Dennis, 1926-32;

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