

TORRANCE PARKING METERS CLOSED ISSUE, PROTESTING MERCHANTS TOLD BY COUNCIL

Information that installation of parking meters in Torrance is a "closed issue" and that a public hearing on the matter will have no effect on the decision of the City Council to place them on the curbs of the Torrance central business district was drawn from members of the council Tuesday night as petitions bearing the signatures of 98 percent of retail district merchants in protest of the meters were filed.

Councilman G. V. Powell said that the installation of the meters was necessary to raise some revenue to meet the budget.

Blaine Walker, secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce who presented the petitions of protest, circulated by the parking committee of the chamber headed by Bob Haggard, asked for a public hearing on the matter, but Powell said that such a hearing would not change the decision of the council to install the meters. Recently the council ordered some 200 meters at \$68 each, to be paid for out of revenue from the meters, and they will be installed as soon as a survey is completed by the manufacturers, Pacific Marbleite Co., it was said.

Merchants who circulated the petitions said that the objections to the parking meters would be reduced somewhat if Torrance would do as Palo Alto is doing—using the meter revenue to buy off-street parking lots. After the lots are purchased by the city and paid in full out of the revenue, the parking meters of Palo Alto are removed. Los Angeles is considering off-street parking lots to solve parking problems, and similar action has been recommended in many other cities, including Torrance.

The petition of the merchants reads: "We, the undersigned businessmen, residents and/or voters in the City of Torrance, respectfully request that the City Council postpone the installation of parking meters recently ordered, and we are opposed to their installation for the following reasons:

1. That they will be detrimental to business.
2. We should not have to pay "rent" for our city streets.
3. There is no parking problem other than on Sartori ave.
4. Strict enforcement of time limits for parking will eliminate any and all parking problems.
5. We urge that you call a special meeting for the purpose of a public discussion of this matter and that at such time the report and recommendations of the special committee of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce be read.

North Torrance, Inglewood, Long Beach Bus Lines May Start Soon

Torrance Municipal Bus Lines, now an established and paying business netting the city approximately \$18,000 a year, will be expanded within the next few weeks to include a run serving North Torrance and extending from Long Beach to Inglewood, according to Councilman W. H. Tolson.

The new service will provide that the buses operate through Torrance from the beach city to Inglewood, serving as a link of transportation for local residents to either of the two cities, as well as providing a direct route between Long Beach and Inglewood for the benefit of residents of those cities.

North Torrance and the General Petroleum refinery would be provided with bus transportation, as would the new County Harbor General Hospital.

It is expected that a proposal to establish the new line will be presented to the City Council within the next week or so, and that service will be started within a few days after approval of the plan.

Torrance buses now run to Los Angeles, Harbor City, Long Beach, West Torrance and Hollywood. It is proposed that a Redondo Beach line to serve West Torrance and Hollywood be established after the North Torrance, Inglewood and Long Beach line is on regular schedule. The North Torrance line will operate on 190th st. and Prairie avenue.

IRON WORKERS, 5; DODGERS, 1

The Iron Workers Union defeated Southwest Dodgers to eliminate their opponents in the 28th game of the Southern California baseball tournament in Torrance last night. The Iron Workers played Buena Vista against the Iron Workers' Giants (Friday night in another elimination game.

Law Firm Asks Water District Assessment Data

The law firm of O'Melveny and Myers, retained by the city to prepare legal phases in the formation of the new water districts in Torrance, has entered the picture to secure assessment figures which will enable the City of Torrance to proceed with the North Torrance water district.

James L. Beebe, member of the firm, informed City Clerk A. H. Bartlett that they are endeavoring to secure the figures from county offices and that a report probably will be forthcoming in the next few days.

Efforts have been made to secure a breakdown of the area north of 100th st. and west of Western avenue for many months, so that the new district can be set up.

Youthful Bike Rider Injured In Car Mishap

Following four days in the Torrance Memorial Hospital, where he was taken following a car accident last week at Carbrillo ave. and Carson st., 12-year-old Bruce Simpson is recovering from serious injury to his foot as a result of being struck by the vehicle, police report.

The youth, astride his bicycle at the time of the accident, collided with the auto, and was thrown beneath its wheels, witnesses said. The car was driven by Dolores Tobin, 22, Gardena. Young Simpson lives at 1554 W. 214th st.

Hospital Deal At Standstill; Lease Looms

Negotiations for the purchase by the county of the Harbor General Hospital, former Port of Embarkation installation on Carson st., are at a standstill, but its transfer on a lease basis now looms. The War Assets Administration had said that transfer to the county of the hospital property was being held in abeyance pending a Congressional inquiry into the proposed transfer of more than 50 plants and camps in other parts of the country.

The former Army hospital was taken over by the county last July 2 but final details of the transfer were not completed pending word from Washington. Transfer of valuable air fields and other government property at a 100 percent discount had brought a demand for Congressional investigation. However, the Justice Department has ruled the W.A.A. has the right to give away surplus property.

Meanwhile, a county official said, the branch hospital will continue to be operated by the county, since the government had not set a price on the buildings and medical and surgical equipment.

ENLISTS HERE

Ray C. Sandgren, 20608 Oak st., recently enlisted at the Torrance Army Recruiting Station for an 18 months' tour of duty with the regular Army. Sandgren has been assigned, the announcement reads.

TORRANCE HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1914 . . . THREE SECTIONS — 22 PAGES
TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1946

COUNCIL REQUESTS CHARTER GROUP TO CONTINUE WORK, FOLLOWING VOTE OF THANKS

Torrance City Charter, which provides for assumption of control by the people of Torrance of the schools of this city, for years past under the jurisdiction of Los Angeles city schools, was adopted by 1,386 "yes" votes to 770 "no" votes, according to final figures released Tuesday night by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett.

Following the official canvass of ballots and absentee votes, the City Council extended to the City Charter Committee a vote of appreciation for its services and requested that the group continue its activity through various phases of organization of the Torrance school district until election of the Torrance Board of Education has been accomplished.

Members of the Charter Committee are: Howard A. Wood, M.D., chairman, James L. Lynch, vice chairman, Mrs. Mina Shidler, secretary, Carl Steele and Mrs. Mark Wright, co-treasurers. The City Council found that of the 38 absentee voter ballots cast, 28 were "yes" votes on the charter.

The official result of the election was given as follows: City Charter, yes, 1386; no, 770.

Final figures on the city bond propositions follow: Proposition No. 1, yes, 746; no, 1257.

Proposition No. 2, yes, 230; no, 1296.

Proposition No. 3, yes, 869; no, 1148.

Proposition No. 4, yes, 698; no, 1269.

Proposition No. 5, yes, 788; no, 1292.

Proposition No. 6, yes, 837; no, 1196.

Proposition No. 7, yes, 857; no, 1154.

A resolution of appreciation similar to the one adopted by the City Council Tuesday night was adopted by the Lions club at its meeting Tuesday noon in the Civic auditorium.

Members of the City Charter Committee, named originally by Mayor J. Hugh Sherfy Jr. to prepare and present the charter to the people, and to conduct the campaign for its adoption, have indicated their willingness to continue their service through the months of preliminary organization of the Torrance school district ahead.

Conferences are being arranged with the office of the county superintendent of schools relative to organization details.

Steps facing the new Torrance school district in its organization include:

1. Ratification by the California Legislature of the City Charter, an automatic procedure.
2. Fixing of the boundaries of the district.

This announcement has been made by the Rev. P. J. McGuinness, pastor of the church. Members of the parish long have sought for Torrance a parochial school, as the children now are required to travel to Redondo Beach and Los Angeles for the church educational facilities.

The site for the new school has not yet been picked, Father McGuinness said, but he is asking for full payment of all pledges before Oct. 1 that the grounds may be secured and plans for buildings undertaken.

A feature of the fund-raising drive now being conducted by members of the parish and friends is a baked ham dinner to be held Sunday, Oct. 6, from 12 noon until 7 p. m., in the Civic Auditorium. At that time various prizes will be awarded, valued at hundreds of dollars.

Council Offers Quandt \$35,000 For Water Works

Torrance City Council Tuesday night voted to increase its offer for the Quandt water system in Wateria from \$20,000 to \$35,000 with the stipulation that it be either accepted or rejected by 8 p. m., September 3, 1946.

The \$30,000 offer for the system, purchase of which is necessary to the development of Municipal Water District No. 1 in Southwest Torrance, including Wateria, was met with a reply from attorneys for C. H. Quandt, that the system is well worth \$75,000.

While the attorneys, Floyd E. Fendell and Dick Ludolph, were present at the time the \$35,000 offer was made, they offered no reply and left soon after the motion of Councilman C. M. Gilbert to increase the offer had been carried.

Col. Roger Q. Williams To Receive Legion Of Merit Medal At Ceremony

Col. Roger Q. Williams, who made aviation history 20 years ago with his spectacular flight from New York to Rome and who since his release from active duty in World War II had been a resident of Torrance, has been awarded the Legion of Merit medal, to be awarded him formally at a presentation at Long Beach municipal airport in the next few days.

Colonel Williams, who is commending details of the publication of a book, previously had been decorated several times, and the Legion of Merit citation and medal award is for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service for the period of June 12, 1944, to Sept. 21, 1945."

A narrative of his accomplishments in this period reads, in part: "Colonel Williams, as Assistant Chief of Staff, Aircraft Maintenance for the Alaskan Division, ATC, through his exceptional organizational ability built up the Alaskan Division, Aircraft Maintenance Section, so that the Division has been able to maintain a reputation for dependability and prompt execution of all missions assigned to it during the period."

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WINS HIGH AWARD . . . Col. Roger Q. Williams, A.C., whose name in aviation is known throughout the world, has been awarded the Legion of Merit Citation and Medal, and presentation will be made at the A.A.F. base in Long Beach within the next few days. Colonel Williams, now completing the publication of a book on aviation, is residing in Torrance. (Torrance Herald photo.)

PLEA GOES TO TRUMAN AS F.H.A. REJECTS TORRANCE TRACTS FOR HOME BUILDING

Following the refusal of the Federal Housing Agency to consider for mutual mortgage insurance two Torrance tracts, where plans for immediate construction of some 350 houses have been made, official Torrance has decided to take its case direct to President Truman for action.

License Tax Hearings Set For Sept. 4

Public hearings on the proposed license ordinance of the City of Torrance will be held in the City Council chambers on Sept. 4, starting at 7:30 p. m., was announced Tuesday night.

The new ordinance, in addition to providing a sliding scale for business licenses, asks industry to pay a "head tax" based on the number of persons employed. Also provided is an oil well license tax as well as other features. The ordinance is proposed as a revenue measure.

Richard Fenon, of the California Stripper Well Association, representing some 40 Torrance strippers, who have been producing under a federal subsidy, asked for more time to study the tax on oil wells, but he was told that the hearing could not be delayed.

STREET WORK IN PUEBLO DISTRICT WOULD COST \$1500

Whether or not the City Council can find \$1500 to put 203rd st. in good repair before winter is up to City Engineer G. M. Jain, the council decided Tuesday night.

Proposals are on file from Father C. J. Wood, pastor of St. Joseph's church, the Pueblo center and from the Catholic Welfare Bureau by Miss Agnes Fladung, against the muddy conditions in the Pueblo during wet weather. With sewer installation completed, the street should be placed in good condition before winter, the communications to the council point out.

"Veterans need homes in Torrance. We have the land. The builders have the materials. The banks are ready with the money. Because the FHA withholds approval, our hands are tied, and

Veterans' Dances To Continue With Police Aid Under 3-2 Council Vote

Over the "no" votes of Councilmen G. V. Powell and A. L. Jackson, the City Council Tuesday night authorized continuance of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Friday night dances in the Civic Auditorium, granting permission to Chief of Police John Stroth to continue overtime patrol work of the area outside the auditorium until such work is found not necessary.

Councilman C. M. Gilbert sponsored the continuance of the patrol upon his observation that the dance revenue is important to the welfare of the veterans group, and the dances are popular with couples from as far away as Pasadena.

Mayor J. Hugh Sherfy Jr. and Councilman W. H. Tolson supported Gilbert's motion, pointing out that if it is possible to eliminate objectionable features they are willing to continue the permission of the city for the veterans to use the auditorium.

Rural Carrier Gives New Book To Local Library

In every state this year celebrations are being held in honor of the 50th anniversary of the rural free delivery of the mail, as narrated in Gwendolyn M. Aaberg's new book, "The R.F.D.," a complimentary copy of which was recently presented to the Torrance library by Margaret O'Toole, Rural Route No. 1 carrier, Torrance, Calif.

Read how the first rural routes were established in three small villages in West Virginia on Oct. 1, 1896; how the experiment spread rapidly throughout the country; how the carriers met in Chicago in 1903 for their first convention, at a great personal sacrifice on their \$50 a month salaries; how they braved bad roads, severe storms and other dangers to serve their patrons. You will marvel at their courage and persistence.

In the foreword to the book, Postmaster General Hannegan writes: "Although England had earlier introduced rural delivery, no precedent existed for the gigantic task undertaken in America, for here the problem was to span a continent from ocean to ocean, to conquer mountains and deserts, frozen wastes and tropical swamps."

The record of the R.F.D. is one to be proud of, and an authentic book on the subject is welcomed by the library.

Local Woman Injured In Car Crash Near Here

Injured in a three-car crash Saturday night at Olive st. and Broadway, Miss Mabel Bess, 30, 1221 El Prado, was taken to Southwest Industrial Hospital where it was said she suffered a skull fracture. Miss Bess later was removed to Torrance Memorial Hospital.

Driving the car in which Miss Bess was injured was Edward W. Panek, 32, 1221 El Prado. Others in the mishap taken to the industrial hospital for emergency treatment were Leon Mayers, driver, Jess Mayers and Louise Peterson, passengers in the second auto, all three of Los Angeles. The third car involved was driven by William Brown, Los Angeles.

Miss Bess is employed at the Harbor General Hospital here as an ambulance driver.

North Torrance Excited Over Heavy Oil Producer Near Alondra Park

With the British-American and Texas Co. exploratory well flowing 26.7 gravity oil at a cut-back rate of nearly 2500 barrels a day, considerable drilling activity is due in the area sandwiched between built-up West Gardena, Alondra park and Lawn-Torrance city line, according to all indications yesterday.

The new well, midway between Prairie ave. and Crenshaw blvd., just north of the Alondra park, is labeled a "no dope well" by production chiefs of the company indicating it is not such a prospect as they do not want the figures revealed at this time.

On the drill platform, oil men admitted that the well is cut back considerably and it is reported that the flow has a potential of from 4000 to 5000 barrels a day.

Gas was in production at the rate of between 400,000 and 600,000 cubic feet.

British-American and Texas Company will start a new well at once within 600 feet of the exploratory hole, it was said, and several other oil companies having leases on the immediate area are reported to be preparing to spud into the new pool at once.

Oil men at the site yesterday said that whip-stocking will not be necessary in the area as yet, but the question is bound to come before the Board of Supervisors again in the near future as oil companies long have sought drilling rights beneath Alondra park area, via the slant-drilling process.

Transportation problems at the new well are solved, it was said, as the Texas company has a pipe line now within a short distance of the new heavy producer.

Not only is the well expected to cause considerable excitement in the area immediately surrounding the well, but North Torrance property owners long have been watching exploratory projects in that area in the belief that if a new pool of oil is tapped it may extend into their holdings a few hundred feet south of the British-American Texas Co. well.

This tremendous flow yesterday was made through a restrictive nozzle of slightly less than one-third of an inch.

The production is coming from a conglomerate formation found at about 9100 feet. Apparently the production is similar to that found at El Segundo and Venice, Ohio Oil Co. recently drilled two deep holes in Gardena district and it was believed to have gotten the making of a 2,500 barrel well in the first hole. The company lost them both because of water completion. British-American drilled two miles west of Ohio.

NIECE HONORED

A birthday party honoring her niece, Frances Kruko, of Redding, Calif., took place Friday, Aug. 23, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chester Codd, 1406 W. 220th st. Fifteen guests were present.

Free Labor Day Picnic Planned By Local Moose

Torrance Lodge No. 785, Loyal Order of Moose, is sponsoring a free picnic Sept. 2 in Torrance city park. The Moose announce that games and prizes for all will be enjoyed by those attending the big event.

The picnic ground will be open at 10 a. m., at which time the local lodge will meet the Long Beach Moose in a Class Triple-A softball game, a spoke man said yesterday. Other events, between picnic snacks, will include races which will feature the most fleet-footed of the Moose, horseshoe pitching and last but not least a genuine kangaroo court done in true hostile style, the Moose over.

A good time is promised to all during the day with valuable prizes being offered to the lucky winners. Everyone is urged to attend this worthy cause and to help the Moose in their building fund.

Torrance Weather Record Official U. S. Weather Bureau TEMPERATURE			
August	Maxi	Mini	mm
21	79	61	
22	77	59	
23	80	58	
24	75	56	
25	76	57	
26	78	58	
27	76	56	
PRECIPITATION			
			Total (Year)
			5.39