

TORRANCE ENTERPRISE

TORRANCE THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL CITY

VOL. 1

SEPTEMBER 16, 1921

NO. 42.

MAIL CAR SERVICE TO SIMPLIFY TEDIOUS DELAYS OF MAIL

Delegates From Several Cities Present When Interesting Reports Are Made

A "rounding" meeting of the Fourth District Chambers of Commerce was the result of the gathering at Moneta last Thursday night, when President Proctor called the meeting to order. Immediately there was much doing. C. J. Colden of San Pedro presented a resolution for endorsement of a coast highway along the waterfront between Poina Firmin and Clifton-by-the-Sea. Mr. Colden read several communications next attached to his resolution, which showed he had been working on the proposition and was getting plenty of endorsement to the project. This was subsequently adopted by the meeting.

"Roads," as usual, was the principal topic of the evening, and many present were pleased to know that there is activity in all sections of this part of the county for the betterment of roads. Western avenue and Vermont avenue came in for their share of discussion.

Mr. Watkins was called upon and spoke at length of the development of the Palos Verdes Hills by E. G. Lewis, wizard promoter and developer of Atascadero. It was learned from Mr. Watkins that the improvement of the hills was not "hot air" this time, but, in fact, much of the preliminary work was already done with and that very soon actual improvement work would be under way.

Lewis' success in subdividing work at Atascadero has convinced the owners of the big ranch that he can develop it faster than any other plans that might be taken and going to the hills a large number of small American ranchers that will make a valuable addition by building up a suburban community.

A very important subject was presented by Secretary A. Gourdier of the Torrance Post Office, when in an interesting address he showed those present at the meeting the advantage of petitioning the post office department at Washington for a mail car for this valley that would take in all the cities in the Fourth District and nearby and adjacent cities. He pointed out how impossible it was to get any kind of service, because a letter mailed in Torrance, for instance, and addressed to Gardena, a distance of only a few miles, had to go to Los Angeles and then come back, taking twenty-four hours, whereby if a mail car were in service over this line the letter would reach its destination in fifteen minutes. This is true of all other cities and the saving in time would be immense. Many present pointed out the fact that it was safer and quicker to get a parcel post package through to San Francisco from Gardena than it was to get it to Torrance from Gardena because of the local red tape necessary under present conditions.

Mr. Gourdier's proposition was immediately received with enthusiasm from all cities present and delegates from Long Beach asked for the adoption of a resolution that would endorse the plan the same evening and action be started for the mail car at once.

Postmaster Gourdier also pointed out how he was co-operating with every other post office in the United States to facilitate and simplify the work, and by doing so he was helping out his brother postmasters to a great degree. If all were doing what Gourdier is doing we would have fewer complaints of our postoffice departments. He sure is wide awake.

A RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Whereas it has been called to our attention that the distance from Los Angeles via Hollywood, Santa Monica, Venice, Redondo Beach, Gardena, Hermosa, Torrance, San Pedro, Wilmington, Long Beach and Compton back into Los Angeles is 62.6 miles; and

Whereas on this stretch of railroad lines there are situated outside of Los Angeles three first-class offices, to-wit: Santa Monica, San Pedro and Long Beach; three second-class offices, to-wit: Beverly Hills, Sherman, El Segundo, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Moneta, Gardena, Torrance, East San Pedro, Terminal, Wilmington and Compton; and

Whereas at the present time it is necessary for a person in any one of these cities or towns to write to another person in any one of the cities or towns and obtain an answer back for the letters in transit to make two round trips into Los Angeles, taking from 24 to 36 hours; and

Whereas, to eliminate the excessive loss of time in communication

TORRANCE OIL

Everyone is anxiously waiting for late news from the Santa Fe oil well West of Torrance when it was learned that the company there were going down at the rate of eighteen to twenty feet per day and were drilling in sand. Great care is being made in their operations and slowness of progress counts for little with those in charge, as they sure it is better to go cautiously and bring in a safe well. Work is also being resumed on the large basin which is being made in anticipation of a big flow.

ELECTRIC SHOP SOLD

C. A. Paxman announces that he has sold the Torrance Electric Shop to Mr. M. W. Smith of Torrance, who will continue to conduct an electrical contracting and jobbing business under the same name. Mr. Smith has been associated with the firm for several years and is well acquainted with conditions in this district, and will be a perfect none of the drawbacks that a newcomer would have to endure before becoming acquainted. The "Enterprise" wishes Mr. Smith a successful business career.

Mr. Paxman, however, will continue in the hardware and electric appliance business both in Torrance and Lomita, the firm's name in both cities being "Paxman's," where large stocks are carried.

RECEPTION DAY

The First National Bank of Torrance will keep open house today to hundreds of admiring friends and patrons who will call at the new banking rooms on a tour of inspection of the latest devices known for safety and service. The hours today, September 16, will be 9:00 a. m. to 9:00 p. m. You are quite welcome to visit the new banking rooms.

VISITS IN NORTH

J. M. Connell, cashier of the Dominguez Land Corporation, was suddenly called to Watsonville Sunday where he went into consultation with his brother on a large land deal.

FAMILY REUNION

Mrs. May McKinley of the McKinley Inn entertained twelve relatives from Los Angeles at a dinner party reunion last Thursday evening. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. James Nutty, Miss Rena Nutty, Mr. and Mrs. Mortimer Clark and daughter Elizabeth, Mr. and Mrs. W. Fred Bowen, Mrs. Romaine Shaw and daughter Eleanor, Mrs. S. Doer, Mrs. W. E. Calahan, Mrs. May McKinley and son Forrest. This party will all be dinner guests of their cousin, Mrs. W. E. Calahan, of Fourth Avenue, Los Angeles, next Sunday.

Mrs. G. A. Proctor has recently returned from a five weeks' trip east, where she attended the Dental Convention at Milwaukee. Mrs. Proctor visited friends and relatives in Detroit and Chicago, returning over the Canadian Pacific route via Spokane.

between the various cities and towns mentioned above, and to assist in relieving the apparent congested condition of the Los Angeles Post Office.

Now, therefore, be it resolved: That the Fourth Supervisorial District Chambers of Commerce, representing the civic organizations in the cities and towns mentioned above, do hereby appeal to the Honorable Second Assistant Postmaster General, Division of Railway Mail Service, to establish a Railway Mail Service three times each way daily on the above described route.

(Signed) GEO. PROCTOR, President.

(Signed) ALFRED GOURDIER, Secretary.

SCHOOL OPENS WITH BIG ENROLLMENT OF SCHOLARS

Noise Of Hammers and Saws In New Addition Makes Class Work Difficult

Due to the confusion attendant with a large enrollment and the noise of carpenters working at fever heat to complete the new addition in the Torrance School building, Prof. I. W. Barnett, with his efficient corps of teachers, have been "practically snowed" under with work this week. In fact about all that could be accomplished was to enroll the children and assign their class work. There has been so much noise in completion of construction of the new addition that class-room work has been at a standstill, and half-day sessions were again put into force the second day to care for the grand rush. It is expected that before three more weeks these short sessions will be eliminated and all scholars cared for throughout the day when the new rooms are ready.

Prof. Barnett is highly elated over the fact that he has the same efficient faculty that was with him last year, with the exception of one teacher, besides having several others who came to Torrance highly recommended.

Miss Laura Thomas of Lomita fills the vacancy of Miss McLaurin, who taught the first and second grades last year, but who was transferred to the city schools.

The teachers of the elementary grades are as follows:

Kindergarten—Miss Lucille Reusch
B1—Miss Laura Thomas
A1—Miss Christie Latta
B2—Miss Prudence Greene
A2 and B3—Miss Florence Felton
B3 and A3—Mrs. Edna Russell
Fourth Grade—Miss Edyth Lay
Fifth Grade—Caroline Rowcove
Sixth Grade—Miss Ethel Hostetler

Teachers of the Intermediate and High School are as follows:

Miss Carrie Stetter
Miss Hannah B. Yeoman
Miss Edna Virginia Sherman
Miss Irene Mills
Mrs. Guy Mowry
Miss Elizabeth Arks
Miss Helen Collier
Mrs. Lucy Jacks

Two more High School teachers will be assigned to Torrance soon. Last year the seventh and eighth grades were a part of the elementary school, but this year the above grades are in charge of regular high school teachers. The program is made part of the high school and is a decided advantage to both the high school and the grades.

GLASS FURNACES FIRED UP

The large glass furnaces of the Torrance Window Glass Co. were started yesterday morning (Thursday), September 15, and within twenty days it is expected the factory will be working full blast. A recent meeting of glass workers held in Redondo was well attended, and a program was adopted for employees to follow when they return to work.

TORRANCE R. N.

The Royal Neighbors met Wednesday evening. After the regular business meeting a social hour was enjoyed. Great enthusiasm was shown in the three months' attendance and also in the membership contest.

Plans were made for an open social joint meeting of the Modern Woodmen and the Royal Neighbors, to be held next Wednesday evening, September 21. Also plans were made for twenty-five Modern Woodmen and Royal Neighbors to attend a play given by the Modern Woodman Camp of Long Beach at the Washington School on American avenue, Long Beach, Thursday evening.

Everyone is relieved to learn of the very sudden illness of Mrs. Anna Oily of Carson street, Vista Highlands, and hope for a rapid recovery.

Florence Has Reduced!

NEW BUILDING FOR A FORD GARAGE IN TORRANCE

Messrs. Knox, Peckham and Schultz of Santa Ana Are Here With Agency

Realizing the wonderful drawing power a Ford garage with service and sales departments located in Torrance will have on the territory contingent to this city, Messrs. Knox, Peckham and Schultz of Santa Ana secured a lease on the new brick building that is to be erected immediately at the corner of Cabrillo and Wells streets, opposite the Union Tool Co.

Work has already begun on the lot now and excavating is well under way, and before the week is over the foundation will probably be started. It is understood that rapid progress will be made so that the new agency, which will handle nothing but Fords, trucks and Fordson tractors, may be able to unload and show the public a large display of all makes of Fords.

One of the finest departments will be established for service of Ford cars and every known late equipment for repairing and overhauling of Fords, and will be in charge of mechanics direct from the factory.

The new brick building will be 90 x 100, with plate glass windows on the Cabrillo street side, where the sales and display rooms will be located. A complete stock of accessories will be carried, and anyone owning a Ford automobile may be accommodated from an unholstering job down to the minutest detail in repairing and overhauling.

Messrs. George Peckham and Charles Schultz come here from Santa Ana, where they have enjoyed a successful business career in the sales department of the Ford agency. Mr. Philip Knox, who will arrive in Torrance in a few days, comes from Perry, Oklahoma, where he was elected county treasurer of his home county, but the lure of California is responsible for his business affiliations with his partners and his residence in Torrance.

The glad hand of fell whiplash is extended the new firm by Torrance.

LOT OWNERS MEET

The lot purchasers of the Hammetton Tract met Wednesday evening in the post office building to receive the report of the committee appointed two weeks previous to device ways and means of handling the oil question on the new tract. The committee recommended that the oil rights be handled separately from the co-operative industries promotion, and that should a lease be given to oil companies the royalty and all other money should be distributed on a lot basis instead of an area basis. Mr. Galloupe, attorney for Mr. Hammetton, recommended some action by the meeting to formulate a plan whereby they could accept desirable offers from oil syndicates, as under present conditions the lot owners were not in a position to deal with anyone desiring a lease. It is expected that something definite will be decided within a few days regarding the mineral rights on the tract.

OFF TO A GOOD START

The new Ford agency located in the Torrance Garage report the sale of a Ford touring car to the Dominguez Land Corporation.

GLASS FURNACES FIRED UP

The large glass furnaces of the Torrance Window Glass Co. were started yesterday morning.

TORRANCE P. T. A.

The next meeting of the Torrance P. T. A. has been indefinitely postponed on account of the construction of the school building, with no room finished to meet in. Articles from the P. T. A. Booth to be called for are at the home of Mrs. F. H. Clark, Andreo avenue, and also a number of desirable articles to be sold.

OIL EXPERT OPENS OFFICE

The activity in and about Torrance is drawing many prominent men connected with the oil development fields and was recently witnessed when Mr. W. A. Sharp of Colorado Springs, Colorado, and more recently of Huntington Beach became associated with Messrs. A. G. Pruitt and W. W. Johnston of Lomita, the three opening an office with Pruitt's real estate agency.

Mr. Sharp represents the leading oil companies of Southern California and is in position to either lease or buy outright desirable oil properties.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON TORRANCE

Occupying an enviable position in view of recent oil development, with its natural surroundings and modern facilities provided to make comfortable living conditions, and claiming the home of about ten of the most thriving manufacturing concerns, Torrance is entertaining from 400 to 700 strangers every week, according to information given by Mr. L. May, general sales manager of the Dominguez Land Corporation, and who is conducting excursions to this city from Los Angeles and Long Beach. From six to ten lots and business properties are being purchased every day from people who are interested in Torrance, and most of the sales made are "oil property." Five excursions are brought in every week, and Mr. May gives a free lecture at 1:00 o'clock each day at the company's sales rooms on El Prado street, soon after the guests are served lunch, which is free of charge. Tracts 4070 and 2761 in the Vista Highlands District have been completely sold out, and for this reason the sales rooms were moved closer in, where the more desirable business properties are seen. A list of the sales for the past ten days follows:

S. Holt, Los Angeles.
Minnie O. Canfield, Long Beach.
E. Pinney, 2 lots, Torrance.
Carrie M. Stetter, Long Beach.
Mrs. E. Beebe, Torrance.
L. H. Bush, Torrance.
Mrs. E. B. Wheeler, Los Angeles.
D. D. Mitchell, Los Angeles.
Peter Monaghan, Los Angeles.
E. Williams, Los Angeles.
Anton Kinghart, Los Angeles.
C. A. Mason, Long Beach.
Bertha G. Kirk, Los Angeles.
Alfred W. Hookway, Pasadena, 10 lots—oil lots.
W. B. Clark, Los Angeles.
M. R. Osborne, Los Angeles, 3 lots.
Paul M. Roth, 4 lots.
Chas. A. Curtis, Torrance.
Tom E. Watson, Los Angeles.
Mary E. Shepherd, Los Angeles.
Emmon J. Arkold, Los Angeles.
Leitia A. Hood, Long Beach. Nearly six or eight lots a day.

TORRANCE O. E. S.

The Torrance Chapter of the O. E. S. attended the Harbor Chapter San Pedro, Tuesday evening, September 13, as their guests. Torrance was present with a full attendance. It was advancement night, and the grand worthy master was present and many other past officers from nearby chapters. Over three hundred members of the O. E. S. were present and enjoyed the evening. After the close of the chapter favors were handed out and refreshments of orange ice cake and coffee were served.

WOMEN'S CLUB PARTY LITERARY MEETING WELL ATTENDED

Fifty-Five Interested Ladies Listen To Program Last Monday Afternoon

The Torrance Woman's Club held a very enjoyable and beneficial meeting in the Legion Hall Monday at 2 p. m., their regular meeting time. After a very short business session the meeting was turned over to Mrs. Fitzhugh, who was chairman of the program for the day. Mrs. Curtiss, chairman of the Current Events Committee, chose six subjects to talk on recently discussed subjects. Mrs. P. G. Briney talked on the "Ford Railroad Question," Mrs. Neelands on the "Irrigation of Imperial Valley," Mrs. Lancaster on the "Disarmament Conference," and Mrs. James Ryynes on the "Irish Question."

Miss Helen Kennedy of the Los Angeles Library gave a very interesting review of new books. Her talk was enjoyed by everyone.

Mrs. Roy Currier of Azusa sang three beautiful selections—"A Lullaby," "Sleep Baby Mine," and "Where My Caravan Is Resting and My Beloved It Is Born."

Mrs. Hunn of Torrance gave three piano selections.

Mrs. Henderson, our local librarian and parliamentarian for the club, gave a Parliamentary Drill, and then the last number, Bryan Punch and cookies, served by the Misses Virginia Watson and Betsy Byrnes, was enjoyed by everyone. There were fifty-five women present, and several applications were made for election to membership. The hall was very prettily decorated with the club colors, orange and gold. Owing to the long program it was impossible to hold the expected board meeting, so it will be necessary to call a meeting of the board of directors this week. Each member is urgently requested to be present, as there is much work to be disposed of. The next regular meeting will be on Monday, September 26, at 2 p. m. at the Legion Hall.

TRUSTEES MEET

The question of better fire protection from all parts of Torrance and especially that of Vista Highlands, where a need for more hy-drants is imperative to safeguard homes in case of fire, was discussed at length by the city trustees at their Tuesday night's session. A longer and more adequate pressure was also advocated and matters pertaining to improvement of fire protection was recommended for the fire committee to work out.

Another matter that has not up to date received much action was that of the Dominguez Land Corporation dedicating the streets to the city. It developed that this could be done in two ways, but not for some time. When the first bond issue held by the Dominguez Land Corporation expires it then can deed the streets to the City of Torrance, but not before, as when the bond issue was floated the streets, of course, were in the assets listed. A friendly suit would in all probability have the same result, but the delay experienced in putting the issue through would take as long as the first method, and in reality there is no great need to rush the matter.

LEASE GARAGE

The repair department of the Torrance Garage was leased this week by R. M. Johns to G. A. R. Steiner, F. M. Tourtellotte, an automotive engineer, and L. M. Crowell, carburetion and ignition expert, the three coming here from the north, where each has, according to report, an enviable reputation in their particular line of work. They will devote all their time to the mechanical and repair departments of the garage, and will specialize on auto and tractor repair. Mr. Johns will still maintain charge of the sales, accessories and filling station departments of the garage.

Florence Has Reduced!