

TORRANCE ENTERPRISE

TORRANCE THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL CITY

VOL. I FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1921 NO. 43

MANY PHASES OF CITY POST OFFICE BUILDING STARTED GOVERNMENT UP FOR CONSIDERATION

Dog Catcher Appointed To Take Up Canines Minus Paid Up License

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held Tuesday evening, with all trustees present. After the regular routine business a discussion was held on the matter of water for fire protection. Trustee Stone recommended the installation of seven new fire hydrants in the Vista Highlands district. Two hydrants to be installed on Carson street and five on 216th street. By connecting the Vista Highlands territory to the booster pump it was stated that the pressure would be increased to some extent, but not greatly.

A discussion was held as to how the Water Company could be induced to increase the pressure all over the city for fire protection, and finally on motion of Trustee Stone the City Attorney was asked what legal action might be taken to get the pressure increased, and it was his opinion that the only recourse was the State Railroad Commission. Motion was then made that the clerk be instructed to write the Railroad Commission complaining against the amount of pressure in Torrance, stating what the pressure is and to ascertain what the Commission will do in the matter; also to state that the city has appealed to the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company, but have had no relief. This motion was withdrawn.

Trustee Fitzhugh is to visit the Railroad Commission in person, registering a verbal complaint and find out the best method of procedure. After his report the clerk was authorized to make the complaint in writing.

The finances of the city are getting into such shape as was at first feared. There is not enough money to run the city until the next taxes are due to the city.

Trustee Smith, chairman of the finance committee, made a motion that the finance committee get together and endeavor to work out a plan for increasing the revenues and report at the next meeting.

President Proctor brought up the matter of the sewer farm, and stated that he had talked the matter over with Mr. Osburn of the Dominguez Land Corporation, who stated that the land on which the sewer farm is now located has been sold to a chemical company which is now defunct, but the land company could not cancel the contract for the sale at present. Mr. Osburn further stated that the land of the sewer farm was up for an oil lease. It was the opinion of the Board that the oil rights should come to the city and that it was necessary that the city acquire the title to the property if possible. The farm is located in the only logical place there is in the city.

It was the opinion of the city attorney that the Dominguez Land Company be compelled to dispose of the sewage on their land, as they were selling the lots in the city with the sewer connections.

Motion was then made by Trustee Fitzhugh that the clerk be instructed to write the Land Company that the Board of Trustees consider that the city has a right to dispose of the sewage on the forty-three acre tract now used as a sewer farm, and that the city has an easement on the property for that purpose. The motion was withdrawn and the matter referred to the sewer, street and park committee, who were instructed to confer with the attorney and report at the next meeting.

The City Marshal reported that he was having some difficulty in collecting the newly enacted license fee from some of the out of town fruit peddlers. It was the opinion of the Board that these people should pay the same fee as any other peddler unless they lived within the limits of the city and were raising their own products.

Ordinances establishing the grades of several streets in the city were given the second reading and approved as read. Also the

Actual construction on the building that is to home the new Torrance post office was started the first of the week by Cook & English, contractors. The new building will adjoin the new bank building and will have a frontage of 77 feet on Barlow avenue. The face brick will be of the same as that of the bank, and the general lines of the post office building will conform with the bank, so as to present a pleasing sight to the eye.

There will be two rooms in the new building, one to be used for the post office and the other to be rented for different purposes.

The erection of these two new buildings will add greatly to the growth of the city, and are in a location that cannot be excelled for their purpose.

TORRANCE WOMAN'S CLUB TO MEET

The Torrance Woman's Club will hold their regular meeting next Monday, September 23, at 2 p. m. in Legion Hall. Mrs. Bell Wood-Comstock, M. D., will speak on health, hygiene, and practical dress. Doctor Wood-Comstock has offices in both Los Angeles and Pasadena and her husband is in charge of the White Memorial Hospital. Her talk will be interesting and educational. Mrs. C. M. Curtis will render vocal solos and other numbers will be added to complete the program. A full attendance is desired.

P. T. A. EXECUTIVE MEETING

The P. T. A. of Torrance will hold their first meeting at the home of the president, Mrs. F. H. Clark of 1731 Andree avenue, on Wednesday afternoon at 2:30, September 28. It is to be an executive board meeting of all the officers of this year, and all the officers of last year are requested to be present, as the work for the coming year will be planned and discussed. Many desirable articles are still at the home of Mrs. Clark to be called for from the Fiesta booth and others for sale also. Any one desiring can purchase these articles.

BANK RECEPTION

A steady and interested crowd of people visited the formal reception at the First National Bank last Saturday, when the day was given over to the public for an inspection of their new banking rooms. The modern equipment and burglar protection systems were carefully explained by the officers of the bank, who felt very proud indeed, over their new home.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Post are at Elsinore Hot Springs this week enjoying the mineral baths.

building ordinance, which covers the construction and moving of buildings and the appointment of a building inspector, was given its second reading and approved as read.

Discussion was held on the matter of the extension of the present telephone system, but no decision was reached.

The matter which caused considerable humor was the appointment of the city marshal as official dog catcher and the use of the city jail as a dog pound. It will be necessary for every owner or keeper of a dog to take out a license for the year, and it will be the duty of the marshal to see that every dog has a license or to impound the dog, and if not claimed after being advertised to poison the dog and thus end its life easily.

The resolution of intention to start the work on the streets in Tract 4070 was read and ordered published. The resolution adopting the plans and specifications for the work on the streets, curbs and sidewalks was read and approved.

All bills which had been properly audited by the various committees were ordered paid. There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

COMMITTEEMEN REPORT TO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MONDAY

Dispose of Volume of Business Accumulated Since Last Meeting

With Vice-President P. G. Briney as chairman of the Chamber of Commerce meeting last Monday night, Secretary A. H. Bartlett promptly at 8:00 o'clock began reading previous minutes, reports and communications that had accumulated on his desk the past month. The Fiesta and Labor Day had interfered with holding regular meetings before, and much business was up for consideration.

A report of the Fiesta Committee was read and proved a surprise to everyone. It developed that the Fiesta would clear in the neighborhood of \$800 (in cash and material saved). The material on hand includes lights, wiring, lumber, etc., all of which may be used next year and save that expense.

Complaints have been registered with those who put the Fiesta over so successfully for hiring outside men to manage the program of the entertainment and concessions. While this did cost some money, it proved to be the source of the financial success, and the credit balance may be traced to competent management. The "Queen" contest was lagging when Manager Casey took charge of the voting, and when the Queen was finally elected Torrance had \$493.22 to the good after all expense had been deducted. Revenue from space sold on the Arch amounted to \$142 net for the Fiesta. All other concessions connected with the festival, including booths and automobiles in the show tent, helped to add just a little bit more to the fund.

In fact, as Mr. Briney put it: "The final accounting was far better than the fondest dreams of any one."

Mayor G. A. Proctor was present and very enthusiastically praised the committee for their untiring efforts in handling the Fiesta, and paid special mention to Harry Paige and A. H. Bartlett, who gave up nearly all of their time for two weeks, and deserted their business interests to make the affair a success.

Mr. Proctor stated that the \$800 balance made this year would be increased to \$1500 next year, and that the merchants had not been asked to give a cent for the 1921 Fiesta. In previous years they were heavy contributors. In 1920 the merchants contributed a guarantee fund of \$500.

Dr. J. S. Lancaster made the suggestion that since there was money in the bank and all expenses paid that the money subscribed by the factories and industries this year be returned. While this amount was less than \$200, and was in several cases given rather than go to the expense of making a display at the grounds, it was finally decided to return these donations.

Dr. Lancaster called attention to the poor telephone service in Torrance and pointed out the impossibility for residents to obtain telephones. Vista Highlands residents have not been able to connect with Torrance, but must apply to Redondo. Similar conditions exist in the eastern part of Torrance, where subscribers for telephones are referred to either Gardena or Wilmington.

Matters of this kind, including Postmaster Gourdiere's resolution asking for a mail car service for first, second and third class offices on the "loop" line of cities tributary to Los Angeles was read, and action in the matter urgently recommended following Mr. Gourdiere's report.

W. T. Klusman reported that the last money for the "Flag Pole" fund had been paid in and the business attendant to this tedious job was ended. He asked as chairman of the Flag Pole Fund to have the committee discharged, which was done, with a vote of thanks to Mr. Klusman.

Many communications were read were requests for literature from Torrance.

TORRANCE GETS TWO MORE OIL WELL DERRICKS

Santa Fe Oil Well To Be Brought In When Order Is Given

It is expected that the Santa Fe well just west of Torrance will be brought in within a very few days, or perhaps hours. It is understood that everything is in readiness and that the men are waiting only to the official word.

The well has been a source of great interest to most every one in Torrance and a number of outside investors. The report that the well will be brought in in a very short time will be received with added interest.

Just what the output of the well will be is unknown, but the fact that the company have in addition to constructing storage tanks and a reservoir in the ground, gives very indication that a large flow of oil is expected.

It is also reported that operations will begin in a very short time on the erection of two other wells near Torrance.

With the wells, it is understood, all be located nearer to Torrance than the present one. Both are to be sunk by the Santa Fe Company at the Chanslor, Canfield, Midway Company's subsidiary of the Santa Fe well. One of the wells it is believed, will be on the property just leased by that company from the Dominguez Land Corporation and the other on the property of the Dominguez estate just north of the Land Company's holdings.

The fact that the trend of developments is coming towards Torrance is surely a boom for the city.

FIRES STARTED AT GLASS WORKS

The people of Torrance were more than pleased to hear that the fires had again been started at the glass factory last Saturday, September 17. The place has been closed since January and the opening means employment for over 200 skilled workmen. They will begin blowing in twenty-one days from the time the fires were started.

BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR MISS PATTON

Miss Marie Patton was the honored guest at a birthday party given at the Myrtle Apartments, September 19, 1921. Early in the evening Miss Patton, Miss Tiffan and Miss Jessome were the dinner guests of Miss Burmaster. About 3:30 Miss Patton was taken to her home, where, to her surprise, she was greeted by a merry crowd of young folks and a shower of beautiful gifts. The evening was spent in playing games and dancing, delicious refreshments being served later.

Those present were the Misses Marie Patton, Helen Tiffany, Helen Neill, Mary Jessome, Virginia Watson, Virgil Pratt, Vivian Pratt, Kathryn Burmaster, Gwendolyn Miller, Mable Christopher, Ruth MacKenzie, Mrs. Beatty, Mrs. George Christopher, Mrs. A. Burmaster, Misses Coker, Messrs. Dewey Quiley, Ralph Beall, Karl Von Haver, Glen Babcock, Henry Burmaster, Linnes Adams, Polydore Ruben, Louis McCain, Harold King, Raymond Davis, Arthur Woodward, Ed Christopher, Elwin Christopher, Carl Burmaster, Roy MacKenzie and William Mullins.

J. N. WILSON MOVES TO REDLANDS

J. N. Wilson, who has been clerking for more than a year in the Paige grocery, moved to Redland last week. Mr. Wilson went to prepare his home there for his brother and family, whom he is expecting to arrive soon from Connecticut.

Florence Has Reduced!

DANCE TONIGHT

The regular weekly dance of the American Legion will be held as usual in their clubhouse on Border Ave., Torrance, this (Friday) evening.

At the dance last Friday evening there was a large attendance despite the fact that there had been no advertising done and no publicity given to the affair.

The floor is now in fine shape and everyone wants to dance. A certain young man who is employed in one of the drug stores in Torrance, never danced before until he came to the American Legion Hall. It is reported that his feet just started to dance and he could not control them. We don't want to mention any names, but he has red hair.

It is to be hoped that the attendance at the dance this week will be larger than ever before, so that everyone will have the best time ever.

Remember and reserve Friday nights for the dance.

SCHOOL NOTES

The Torrance school opened its new term with an enrollment of 104 pupils in the elementary grades, and 111 in the intermediate and high school. Last year at the same season the elementary grades had enrolled 271 and the intermediate and high school 66, making an increase this year of 33 in the elementary grades and 45 in the intermediate and high school.

The school is working under great disadvantage during the time in which the new building is under process of completion. When the new rooms are ready for occupancy, however, the school will be well equipped for a successful year's work. In the meantime the faculty is making every effort to work out a program which will give each student the very best course possible.

A new orchestra instructor has been assigned to Torrance High School. The school is very fortunate to be able to get the services of Miss Eleanor Elliot, who comes from Lancaster, Cal., very highly recommended. She is now taking advanced work in Los Angeles.

The sloyd shop has been closed three years, and during that time not a single teacher has applied for the position. Mr. Burnett now has in view an excellent man to take the place. It is felt certain that the city office will appoint a teacher for both the sloyd shop and agriculture.

The noise still continues in the new part, but it will not continue for many days. The floors will be ready for the painters by the last of the week. The principal now occupies his new office and hopes to occupy more rooms by next week. In about ten days everything will be quiet and orderly if there is a delay in the work.

NEAR EAST MEETING

Members of the Near East Relief Southern California met in the private offices of the First National Bank last Thursday evening, with representatives of the Torrance Woman's Club, Parent-Teachers Association, Business Men and Pastors of the Churches, the newspapers and others for the purpose of informing people here of the destitute circumstances of 128,000 refugee children of Asia Minor, particularly the persecuted Armenians. The distress in that country is ghastly and it is the endeavor of the organization to awaken the people of this community to the urgent support in saving these people.

REBEKAH DANCE

The Rebekahs will give a dance and progressive card party Saturday night, September 24 in the Lomita Community Hall. The proceeds will go toward buying regalia for the proposed Rebekah Lodge. You are invited to come.

Mr. Fred Lessing of Arlington avenue was a guest of Los Angeles relatives Friday and Saturday.

AUDITORIUM THEATRE OPENS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Manager McVey of San Diego Coming To Take Charge Of Pictures

The announcement was made the first of this week by the lessees of the Torrance Auditorium that the theatre will give its first show on October 1, being a week from Saturday. This announcement will be received with the greatest enthusiasm by every one in Torrance and the surrounding towns.

The most of the interior work has been finished and the last touches are now being put on the building.

The lower floor of the foyer will have the seats and the room for the projecting machines. The balcony will have the reserved seats and rest rooms, as well as a private office for the management.

The walls of the building have been tinted a soft blue and the woodwork has been finished off in white that will not be hard on the eyes in a strong light.

It is planned to have the most comfortable seats of any theatre in this part of the country.

Only first-class pictures will be run and as the projecting machines are of the latest type, it is assured that the residents of Torrance and surrounding cities will have one of the most up-to-date theatres to be found.

A curved stairway has been put in the building to reach the balcony and thus make it easy to reach that floor.

There are no steps to stumble on in getting to their seats, and every row of seats have been elevated on a slight grade above the seats in front.

Plenty of exits have been installed for use in case of fire and the system of ventilation is one of the best to be had.

MRS. F. L. PARKS HONORS HER MOTHER

Mrs. F. L. Parks of Andree avenue gave her mother, Mrs. Zada Hastie, a very successful surprise party on Tuesday afternoon. The occasion was Mrs. Hastie's seventy-second birthday. There were fifteen ladies present, and all but two were Torrance friends. The house and table were beautifully decorated with purple and white flowers. Mrs. W. J. Neeland entertained the ladies by rendering several vocal solos. The honoree received many beautiful and useful gifts, among them being an elaborate hand-made handkerchief from Paris. The hostess served elaborate refreshments of shrimp salad, nutbread sandwiches, a birthday cake and pineapple sherbet.

Those present were Miss Laura Brown, Mrs. Anna Burmaster, Mrs. Frank Warren, Mrs. J. T. Wise, Mrs. Henry Barnett, Mrs. Harrison Bartlett, Mrs. Jennie Moore, Mrs. Mary E. Perkins, Mrs. W. J. Neelands, Mrs. Nettie Steinhilber, Mrs. P. F. Brown, Mrs. Nellie Zuver, Mrs. A. G. Pruitt, Mrs. Zada Hastie, Mrs. Charles Turner, Mrs. Kepner, Miss Ethel Amic Brown and Mrs. F. L. Parks.

TORRANCE VS. SAN GABRIEL

Torrance Merchants wound up the season by trouncing the boys from San Gabriel to the tune of 8 to 5. Both sides played consistent ball, and aside from the sixth inning was a hair-raising game. In the sixth inning six straight hits by Weidner, Conway, Newby and others netted the home boys four runs and put the game on ice. Conway and Newby put up a stellar game in the outer garden, while Atwood made some dandy plays in the infield. "Billy" Weidner played his usually steady game behind the plate. Thurston was on the mound for the locals and was inclined to be wild, but brilliant playing pulled him out of danger.

Miss Helen Tappe, vocal and instrumental teacher of Los Angeles, uses Mrs. R. C. Kite's home on Arlington avenue as a studio one day of each week.