

TORRANCE ENTERPRISE

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HOW EVERY MAN CAN HELP

How many of you men under whose eyes these words fall know of a boy just growing up who seems to have no ambition, who either goes dully through his days or is plainly as reckless of the things of tomorrow as he was of the things of yesterday.

Are you, who knows such a boy, too busy, sir, to take a real interest in that growing young fellow? Don't you know that what that boy needs as much as anything else at his stage in life is a friendly advance from somebody older; that he needs advice, not given as mere advice, but quite plainly from a sincere desire to be of service to him and to his future?

Do not feel that the boy's father and his mother are enough. God knows that they try to do their best by their boy, but the fact is his father and mother have been advising and governing him all his life and the young fellow takes it from them as a matter of monotonous duty and dull home routine. When he is 16 to 18 or 19 he needs something without, and if the father is friendly, good-natured and manly, all the better for the boy.

Man, the touch you give that boy acquaintance may mean a good citizen or a bad citizen a few years hence. Forget his surliness; forget even seeming stupidity—they may be masks that cover the yearning for an understanding heart.

But whatever you do, Mr. Busy Man, take notice of your neighbor's growing boy when he is in your vicinity or when you meet him. A cheerful word and a smile will go a long way even if you haven't time to stop and talk to him as one man to another.

OUR OWN UNDERNOURISHED BAIKINS

A writer in a New York paper protests against the movement to have the school children of the city raise funds for the relief of poor, underfed children of France, on the grounds that many New York school children are also underfed.

There is a lot in this. In every city in this land, we care not which one you name, there are too many poor, ill-clothed and underfed children. In cities like New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston—in fact, in all of the 10 to 15 larger cities—there are many thousands of such children, pathetic examples of man's inhumanity to man; pathetically attending school; pitifully bearing up under their lot and saying nothing about their gnawing stomachs.

We are sending shiploads of food and clothing to Germany, Russia, Poland and elsewhere, forgetting that we have tens of thousands of shivering, undernourished little ones in our own country.

Organized charity? Oh, yes, every city has its public charity organization, but it fails to find many of the needy in every city, and the food, fuel and clothing it gives to the rest is nearly always of the meagerest sort.

Missionary work is fine—we do not criticize it at all, but we simply can't overlook our own sad little bairns.

TORRANCE TO HAVE MUCH-NEEDED IMPROVEMENT

Paving of Arlington and Carson and Purchase of Sewer Farm Considered By Trustees

Action which will meet with the wholehearted approval of the people of Torrance was taken by the Board of Trustees at their meeting on Tuesday night. Torrance, with the present condition of Arlington and Carson, is almost in a class by itself in being shunned by travelers who know the condition of the streets leading into the city, and residents of Torrance have been looking hopefully forward to the time when Arlington and Carson will be paved, so as to be a credit to the city and a boon to travelers.

The present sewage disposal is likely to become a menace to health on account of the fact that there is no adequate system of distributing the sewage water over the ground, and the Trustees do not favor spending money in installing a distribution system on land that does not belong to the city. Under the plans which the Trustees have outlined the sewage can be taken care of with a profit, as the sewage water makes excellent irrigation water for hay and grain and orchard crops. If the city becomes the owner of the sewer farm it thereby solves its problem of sewage disposal and at the same time obtains irrigation water for the farm free of cost, as the sewage would otherwise be wasted. In fact, it is believed that if twenty year bonds were issued to pay for the sewer farm the income from the farm would almost take care of the yearly payments on the bonds, and thus relieve the taxpayer from the payment of that portion, besides becoming in the future a producer of clear profits to the city.

The urgent necessity of improving Arlington Street from the South City Limits to Carson Street, and improving Carson Street from the West City Limits to Madrid Avenue, having been brought to the attention of the Board of Trustees, the Board took action looking toward the paving of these two of the three main arteries leading into Torrance, and the resurfacing of the third, or El Prado, along the East side of the Pacific Electric tracks between 213th Street and the West boundary of the Shoestring Strip.

It also having been brought to the attention of the Board that the present sewage disposal of the city is upon land owned by the Dominguez Land Corporation, and, further, that the declaration of the Dominguez Land Corporation which is subscribed to and agreed to by every lot purchaser in Torrance provides that the sewage disposal on the land of the Corporation shall continue only at the will of that Corporation; and it having also been brought to the attention of the Board that the present disposal of sewage may cause a condition dangerous to the health of the people of Torrance, and that the condition cannot be remedied without the expenditure of considerable funds in the installation of a distribution system on the sewer farm; and that the sewage water is now going to waste and is being used by no one; and that, further, certain business interests have considered, and others are considering, the purchase of the land now used for disposal of sewage, and which land is the only available site for a sewer farm, the Board of Trustees put themselves on record as favoring the purchase of a tract of land in the City of Torrance to be used as a sewer farm. A sewer farm requires a loose, sandy soil which will absorb the water; requires that it be at a low elevation so as to avoid, as far as possible, the pumping of the water to it; requires, because of its nature, that it be remote from the inhabited portion of the city, and in the City of Torrance the prevailing winds would cause the choice of a location on the leeward side of the inhabited district. There is only one such tract of land in Torrance.

The action taken by the Board contemplates that one-half the cost of paving Arlington and Carson will be paid for from the proceeds of bonds to be voted upon by the people of Torrance at an election to be held for that purpose in the near future, and the other half to be paid for by the property owners owning property contiguous to those two streets, such payments to be extended over a period of ten years.

This would mean that one-half the cost of paving Arlington with five inches of Willite paving and one-half the cost of paving Carson with four inches of Willite paving (to be laid on the present paving) would be paid by the city as a whole, and the other half of each would be paid by the property owners in the immediate vicinity. This was deemed by the Board to be the most equitable distribution of the costs, as those two streets are main thoroughfares and the paving of them is to the interest of the whole city; yet the property owners on those streets should pay a portion of the cost, as they would have to pay the whole cost of the paving on their streets if located in a remote part of the city where a thinner or cheaper paving could be put in.

The estimates of the City Engineer for the improvements to be voted upon are as follows:

One-half the width of Arlington and Carson, \$57,000.00.

Resurfacing Arlington from Carson to Marcelina, Marcelina from Arlington to Cravens and El Prado from 213th Street to Shoestring Strip, \$12,000.00.

Sewer farm and implements and equipment therefor (43 acres), \$50,000.00.

This whole bond issue would mean to the taxpayer the payment of an average of only about two mills per dollar of valuation (based on present total valuation) each year during the twenty years necessary to pay off the bonds. Such slight increase in taxation for such pressing necessities will no doubt meet the hearty approval of the voters of Torrance. Who is there but is willing to pay this slight tax for the good the city will derive from the improvements contemplated.

The more bad habits a man has the more he seems to enjoy life's good things.

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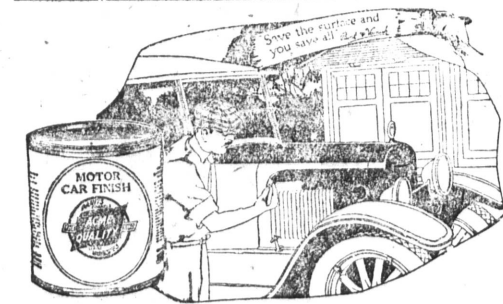
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