

Torrance Lands Julian Refinery

HALF A MILLION DOLLAR DEAL CLINCHES PLANT

Dominguez Sells 231 Acres To Big Operator

START WORK SOON

Site Lies East of City Limits and West of Main St.

C. C. Julian's two-million-dollar refinery will be built on the Torrance tract.

This was positively assured Wednesday night when the Los Angeles operator purchased 231 acres east of the city limits from the Dominguez Land corporation for \$526,449.

The acreage secured by Julian is north and south of East road and between Normandie and Harbor boulevard.

The transaction, closed by Mr. Findlay, vice president of the Dominguez corporation, is the largest land deal ever consummated in the Torrance tract.

Julian already has hundreds of thousands of dollars in material ready, and work on the refinery plant will be started without delay.

Strategic Location

Mr. Julian stated Wednesday night that he selected the Torrance acreage because of its strategic location for a refinery, being easily accessible by pipe line to Signal Hill, Huntington Beach, Santa Fe Springs, and the Torrance and Compton fields, as well as close to the harbor.

Negotiations between Julian and Mr. Findlay have been going on for several weeks. The sale was practically completed when the state corporation commission placed legal obstacles in Julian's way.

With his usual aggressiveness however, the indomitable Los Angeles operator raised money by personal notes, which will be exchanged for stock certificates as soon as the Julian permit is granted.

Holds Deal Open

After the intervention of the state the Dominguez corporation, at the behest of Julian, held the land open. Julian raised several hundred thousand dollars by means of notes, and immediately closed the deal for the Torrance land.

Large reservations of stock in the Julian Petroleum corporation are coming to Julian daily by letter and telegraph. That he will now be able to finance his \$5,000,000 corporation is assured.

Work on the Julian tank farm and pipe line is progressing rapidly, it is reported from Los Angeles.

Every oil development in the country has seen one successful independent producer and refiner emerge from the scores of operators. Julian's success in Southern California has been one of the thrilling romances of the state's industrial history. Julian has a following numbered in the thousands and is regarded by neutral observers as the Harry Sinclair of California.

Fortuna Oil Co. To Drill First Well In Lomita

The Fortuna Oil company will immediately erect a derrick on the half acre near Pepper and Narbonne, which they leased this week from Harry Perham. The lease carries a 25-day drilling clause. Mr. Perham received a bonus of \$500 and will get a sixth of the oil. The Perham lease is almost directly southeast of the Midway Northern well.

TORRANCE REFINERY TURNS OUT 3000 BARRELS OF GAS A DAY ANOTHER BREAKS GROUND

Turning out approximately 3,000 gallons of gasoline a day, the Torrance Gasoline and Refining company's absorption plant, located on the southeast corner of the Chancellor Canfield Midway's Del Amo lease, began operations Monday of this week. At the same time work was started on the foundation for the Wizard Oil company's gasoline absorption plant between the Hub Oil company's Smith No. 1 and No. 2, on the north side of Carson street. The latter establishment will have a smaller capacity than the one now under operation.

Has Four Units

The plant of the Torrance Gasoline and Refining company is equipped with four units, but only two are being used to start with. The capacity of the two units is approximately 3,000 gallons a day. The gas from which the gasoline is being extracted is being taken from

Torrance Herald



NINTH YEAR

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, JULY 20, 1923

NO. 29

27

Citizens Boom Great Highway

TWO BIG WELLS ROAR IN

GUSHER ROARS IN, PROVING WIDE AREA IN FIELD

Midway Northern Well Defies Crew's Checking Efforts

Flowing at the rate of 1000 barrels a day, the Chancellor Canfield Midway's Torrance No. 5, located in Block 14, Tract 4070, was brought in Thursday morning. This is the first well to be brought in in the 4070 Tract in which four other wells are now located, and dispels the early belief that the territory north of Carson Street, and particularly that district north of 16th Street would produce only small wells.

Though the gravity of the oil was not known up to last night, it was expected to run better than 25.

The well was completed at 3610 feet.

MIDWAY NORTHERN

Extending the Torrance field three-quarters of mile southwest of production, and opening up a gusher section of the field, the Midway Northern's well just south of the old Redondo Boulevard and five hundred feet east of Cedar Street, blew in unexpectedly last Friday with more than 3000 feet of drill pipe in the hole. Since that time the well has defied the efforts of the crew to mud it off in order to go deeper into the sand. The well blew in at 3556 feet 24 hours after the crew had drilled out the cement at 3484 feet. The well had given no hint of gushing in until the drill passed through a few feet of oil shale into the sand which has opened up new possibilities for the Torrance field.

FLOWS RAPIDLY

Despite the fact that the officials of the company believe that they could get a 1500 or 2000 barrel well from the sand the well is now in, they want to put it down at least to the next shell formation in order to get about 100 feet more of sand to produce from. Virtually all the wells in the Torrance field are producing from about 500 feet of oil sand and the Midway Northern officials believe that they can expect to find a hundred or more feet of sand below where their drill has been stopped. They also expect to pick up a higher gravity oil. Approximately 4000 barrels has flowed into the tanks of this well in spite of the efforts made to kill it. The oil tests between 25 and 30 gravity.

The Chandler Canfield Midway's Torrance No. 5, which offsets the Midway Northern well, is being drilled as carefully as possible and preparations are being made to cement it off. The Chandler Canfield men are of the opinion that the Midway drillers passed up some of the upper sand, and are preparing to cement off Torrance No. 3 at a shallower depth than the other well.

BACK ON PRODUCTION

The Hub's Smith No. 1 was put back on production last week after being deepened to 3660 feet. The well is now making 800 barrels a day, with the gravity of the oil running about 29. Smith No. 2, which offsets the

Continued on Last Page

ARLINGTON ST. CONTROVERSY ENDED FOR CITY GOOD

Directors Recind Resolution Endorsing Association

Torrance city officials and Chamber of Commerce directors this week buried the hatchet, that for several weeks has been threatening the continued progress and peace of the city.

It was buried deep.

The city officials who resigned as a result of the chamber directors' endorsement of the action of the Arlington Street Improvement association are now members of the Chamber of Commerce again.

The resolution over which a verbal battle has been waged for weeks has been rescinded by the chamber directors.

A letter signed by E. H. Nash, W. H. Gilbert, George A. Proctor, James M. Fitzhugh and A. H. Bartlett urges that all parties "get back

Continued on Last Page

TORRANCE IS REPRESENTED AT ROAD MEET

Trustees and C. of C. Directors Go To Lawndale

Torrance planned to be well represented at the meeting of the Los Angeles regional planning commission Thursday night at Lawndale.

For the meeting was called to discuss highway plans for the Torrance-Redondo-Inglewood district. The directors of the Chamber of Commerce and the board of trustees voted to attend in a body.

Delegates from 17 municipalities were planning to attend.

4TH DISTRICT WILL CONVENE IN TORRANCE

Chambers of Commerce Select City For August 9th

Members of the Fourth District Chamber of Commerce, several hundred strong, will meet in Torrance August 9 in their regular monthly session.

Torrance put in a bid to entertain the district meeting at the last session, held in Long Beach.

The meeting will be held in Legion hall. Secretary Harry Gadeky of the local chamber is making plans to outdo neighboring cities in the matter of satisfying the appetites of the delegates.

Flames Ruin Goods in John King Home

An oil stove exploded in the John E. King home, in the Hammett Tract, last Thursday afternoon, and before the fire was under control the contents of the house were destroyed. Prompt assistance on the part of neighbors saved the building. There is no phone service in the tract, and help could not be gotten from Torrance. Mr. King was at home alone and had lighted the stove, and then stepped out to feed the chickens. There was no insurance on the household goods, but the building itself was insured. Mrs. King is the well known real estate agent, Mrs. Fanny C. King.

WILL BUILD

Construction of a six unit bungalow court on Annapolis Ave. will begin in the near future, for Luther A. Hyde of Vista Highlands.

SKY SOARING LAND PRICES IN WAKE OF BIG GUSHER

Record Values Follow Midway Northern Successes

When oil gushed upward in the Midway Northern well on the old Redondo road last week, property values around Lomita rose up too. Brisk demand for land near the Midway Northern well and the activity of leasing agents sent both property and lease values skyrocketing while oil poured into the Midway Northern sump hole.

While the atmosphere has been charged with wild rumors of fabulous values offered and refused, still information from authentic sources certainly confirms many transactions in which considerations set new high records.

Block 71 in tract 639, owned by a Cleveland man, was purchased by Hollywood investors this week for \$12,500. This block is unleased.

Surpassing this value, even authentic sources report that half of block 72, in the same tract, changed hands for \$12,000.

Bids for royalties in the Midway Northern well were flying thick and fast during the week. An unconfirmed but particularly reliable report states that the owner of 25 per cent of the landowner's royalty and one-sixth of the oil was offered and refused \$40,000 for half of his interest. On that basis the sixth royalty would be marketable at \$320,000.

Lease values soared during the week, and drilling clauses become more acceptable to land owners. One lease, carrying \$2,500 and a fifth of the oil to the owner, was ready for signatures. The land concerned is southwest of the Midway Northern well.

Negotiations were being made this week for the leasing of several acres southeast of the Midway Northern well. By the terms agreed upon the owner would get one-fourth of the oil and a \$2,000 bonus. The lease would carry a 90-day drilling clause.

CITY WILL BE BROKE OCT. 1 ASSERTS NASH

Pleading for the strictest economy in the administration of the city's affairs for the balance of the calendar year, City Trustee E. H. Nash Tuesday night declared that the city of Torrance faces the possibility of being "broke" by October 1.

Mr. Nash has made careful study of absolutely necessary running expenses and reported that these alone will utilize all the city funds by fall.

He brought out the fact, however, that the city this year has added extensive improvements which were met out of this year's taxes, and declared that these improvements have already increased in value to such an extent that the city has actually made money in 1923. He referred particularly to the city hall and jail building.

The trustee, appreciative of the necessity for the strictest sort of economy, tentatively agreed to keep expenses down to an absolute minimum.

Briney To Attend Santa Fe Hearing

City Attorney Briney will attend the hearing of the railroad commission next Monday on the request of the Santa Fe to construct their road from El Segundo to Wilmington, through Torrance. While there is no doubt that the franchise will be granted, the road is of such importance to Torrance that the board of trustees deem it wise to be represented.

Western Ave. Plan Includes Payment By Ground Owners

Congratulations Peace Once More

Torrance came out of a dangerous situation with flying colors this week.

The threatened split in civic bodies was removed when both city officials and directors of the Chamber of Commerce came forward like men and dropped their differences.

Members of the board of trustees and members of the Chamber of Commerce directorate are men of vision and foresight. They realized that the progress of Torrance depends upon united action and concerted effort.

When things came to a showdown, when the real danger to the future of the whole city was apparent, the differences were speedily forgotten.

No community can expect to find unanimity on any question of public moment. Every civic body is prey to controversy and disputes.

But when civic bodies are composed of men who will cast aside personal feelings for the sake of community progress, then that community is fortunate.

There will be disputes in the future. Some of them will be bitter. But as long as Torrance men refuse to allow those disputes to wreck all possibility of concerted community action, just so long will Torrance civic bodies be able to function efficiently and with the weight of public respect in their support.

And it is by such functioning alone that achievement is possible.

Bank Will Install Chimes In Torrance

Chimes will soon be ringing out the hours in the Torrance business district.

The First National bank Tuesday night was granted permission by the board of trustees to install a beautiful clock of the chimes variety. The installation will be subject to inspection by the city engineer.

Ernest Sisson of Venice is stopping at the Erwin.

HERALD CARTOONIST WILL DRAW YOUR PICTURE FREE; HE IS MYSTERIOUS COWBOY

Now comes your opportunity to have your picture drawn from life free.

The Mysterious Cowboy, staff cartoonist for the Torrance Herald and famous the country over as one of the greatest delineators of the face, will appear at the grand opening of the Torrance Hardware company's new store next Monday July 23, between the hours of 2:30 and 5:30 p.m., and draw, absolutely free, the pictures of those attending the opening.

This added new premier opening attraction is in keeping with Hardware Reeve's policy of giving the best, and will no doubt prove a great attraction.

This will be the first appearance of the Mysterious Cowboy cartoonist, staff cartoonist of the Herald, in Torrance. But soon he will be seen on our streets in his picturesque attire and his drawings of prominent citizens will be a lively feature of your favorite paper each issue for the coming year.

The Mysterious Cowboy cartoonist will appear at the opening Monday in full cowboy costume—with

Forum, Directors and Trustees Speed Paving Project

VOTE IN OCTOBER

Board Starts Machinery For Special Election

Indications point to the fact that Torrance voters will be asked to pass on two bonding propositions totaling approximately \$115,000 for the paving of Western avenue to the city limits and for providing adequate lighting on all streets within the "tree rows."

Developments leading toward a special election, which probably will be called on some date in October, were rapid this week.

They started at the Forum meeting Monday night, when both propositions received the endorsement of an overwhelming majority.

Chamber Helps They were advanced Tuesday afternoon when the Chamber of Commerce directors request the board of trustees to present a proposition for the paving of Western avenue.

They culminated Tuesday night when the board of trustees formally instructed the city engineer to prepare estimates on the paving work and present them at the next meeting, and made tentative plans for presentation of the bonding proposition for lights so that it would come up at the same special election.

The lighting would cost \$75,000, according to figures of the city engineer as presented to the Forum meeting.

The Paving Cost The paving of Western avenue from the northern limits to El Prado street with 6-inch pavement 26 feet wide and with 17-foot grading on each side, and for paving El Prado street to Border avenue, would cost approximately \$50,000, according to the engineer.

The Forum meeting left no doubt that it is the majority opinion that property owners on Western avenue bear part of the expense of the paving.

This opinion was incorporated in the Chamber of Commerce directors' (Continued on Last Page)

mystery mask and all. With characteristic quickness he will sketch lifelike pictures of all who desire to have their pictures done by a really great cartoonist. Especially does the Mysterious Cowboy like to draw the boys and girls—he says they have a wonderful freshness and sweetness that he loves.

Other attractions announced by the Torrance Hardware company for the formal opening of their new store Monday and Tuesday, July 23 and 24, include cooking demonstrations and lectures by Mrs. Harriet Hall, graduate of domestic science department of the University of California, who will use the Wedgewood gas range, Miss Virginia Bolton will give you ideas as to how to make the home epic and bright with Chi-Namel, while Mr. Rice of the Detroit Vapor Stove company will give valuable information about the Red Star oil stove.

In these days of forward-looking home-makers the program should prove not only entertaining, but practical.

Remember, you get your picture free—Monday, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.