

Western Avenue Assessments Ready

Covers the Torrance District Like a Blanket.



"There is no Substitute for Circulation."

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TAX RATE REMAINS AT 98 CENTS

Shell Company's Test Hole on Kettler Lease Holds Interest

ASSESSED VALUE HIGH

Worth of Property in Torrance Leaps From \$5,943-130 to \$10,549,985

RATE LOWEST IN STATE

Trustees Fix Levy for This Year Same as Last Twelve Months

The tax rate in Torrance for the year 1924-1925 again will be the lowest prevailing in any sixth-class city in California.

The board of trustees Tuesday night passed an ordinance fixing the rate at 98 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. Of this amount 8 cents will go toward the retirement of outstanding bonds.

Revealing the astounding growth of Torrance during the past year, the assessed valuation of the city almost doubled during the past twelve-month period. This increase enabled the board to hold the tax rate at last year's figure, although an increase was previously thought necessary.

Last year the assessed valuation of Torrance was \$5,943,130. This year it is \$10,549,985.

In preparing the budget Tuesday night the board voted to provide an assistant city clerk at a salary of \$125 a month, to be increased to \$150 a month on January 1, 1925. The \$25 a month which the city clerk now receives for plumbing and electrical inspections was voted for his salary.

Torrance Elks Hold Reins at Redondo Lodge

Last Tuesday was Torrance night at the Redondo lodge. The Elks, and from this city occupied the offices of the lodge. A splendid evening of entertainment was enjoyed by the many Torrance men who attended. The following Torrance Elks officiated: Harry McManus, exalted ruler; Beverly Smith, leading knight; Joe Fay, feasting knight; W. A. Grant, esteemed leading knight; W. A. Renn, secretary; St. Rappaport, esquire; Robert McCaffery, inside guard; C. S. Overde, chaplain; Ray Tompkins, outside guard.

Addresses of welcome were made by Redondo Elks, who urged the Torrance men to pull together for the lodge in Torrance.

Torrance men thanked their Redondo brothers for the evening's entertainment, and Harry McManus expressed his appreciation for the help he received from the Torrance members.

Operators Put 3 New Wells On Production

The Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company has brought in two new producers over the weekend. Torrance No. 68, drilled to 3715 feet, is making 350 barrels a day. Kettler No. 21, in the center of the Santa Fe's Kettler lease, was completed at 3860 feet and is making 380 barrels a day. The Standard Oil completed Dominguez No. 9 at 3860 feet for 290-barrel production.

The Standard Oil Company is drilling ahead in Weston No. 1, the depth of the hole yesterday being 4330 feet.

Torrance No. 45 of the Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company is being swabbed for production.

All These Stars Added Together Make Only One Real Perfect Movie Actress



1—Barbara La Marr; 2—May McAvoy; 3—Pearl White; 4—Norma Talmadge; 5—Viola Dana; 6—Mary Pickford; 7—Corrine Griffith; 8—Colleen Moore; 9—Constance Talmadge; 10—Pola Negri. If the best points of these were combined, the result would be the perfect motion picture actress, says Maurice.

By MARGERY PICKARD
Central Press Correspondent
NEW YORK, Aug. 19.—Maurice Tournour, the French-American creator of photoplays, is looking for the perfect motion picture actress, but without any expectancy of finding her.

"It's fun to hope," he opines.

Maurice thinks he would recognize her if he saw her. She would have, he specifies:
The dramatic fervor of Norma Talmadge;
Peter-Panism of Mary Pickford;
Whimsicality of Constance Talmadge;
Beauty of May McAvoy;

Daring of Barbara La Marr;
Comedy of Viola Dana;
Nonchalance of Pearl White;
Flapper mania of Colleen Moore;
Vampirism of Pola Negri; and
Eyes, eyebrows and lips of Corrine Griffith.
Now, girls, you know what qualities to cultivate if you want to win success in filmland.

Fires Keep Local Departments Busy Over the Weekend

Two fires kept the Torrance department busy over the weekend. Flames totally destroyed a garage and Ford touring car belonging to Otto Bach, 1888 Plaza del Amo Saturday night at 11:30. The fire was too far advanced to be put out when the department arrived. The loss was \$300, including the Ford car.

Gasoline from an overfilled tank on a Superior Oil Company truck Sunday night ignited on an overheated exhaust pipe and damaged the vehicle to the extent of \$50. The fire department extinguished the blaze with chemical.

Local Standard Oil Sales Force Wins Tank Again

For the second successive month the Torrance office of the Standard Oil Company won the silver trophy awarded by the corporation to the office showing the greatest increase in sales over the corresponding month of the previous year. This beautiful trophy will be on display at Rappaport's on Cabrillo avenue for a week starting tomorrow. The Los Angeles home office won the silver filling station trophy for July. R. S. Cave, Torrance salesman for the company, was selected from the entire district to go to San Francisco to bring the trophy to Los Angeles.

Seek to Bring Idle Wells in Lomita to Life

A persistent report among oil operators states that a large company is negotiating for small leases on which idle wells are standing. It is pointed out that if one company could take over many of the "sick" wells, at least one out of four could be made into a profitable pumper, perhaps one out of three.

Judge and Chief Motor to Canyon

City Recorder and Mrs. James L. King and Chief of Police and Mrs. Byron M. Anderson left this week on a motor tour, with the Grand Canyon as their objective.

AN AEROPLANE RIDE

Mr. and Mrs. Jere Van Andie, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Nickles, Mrs. Nickles Sr., and Mrs. Paour Sr. attended the Masonic picnic Sunday. On their way home they stopped at the Rogers field on Western avenue, and Mrs. Van Andie and Mr. Nickles enjoyed a ride in an aeroplane.

Mrs. Van Andie is very enthusiastic over the experience.

National Dental Society Honors Torrance Woman

Dr. Minnie S. Proctor has been invited to give a clinic at the annual convention of the National Dental Society at Dallas, Tex., in November. Mrs. Proctor gave a clinic on gold-inlays at the California dental convention at San Diego recently and will repeat the clinic at the national meeting.

First Mayor of Oklahoma City Will Visit Here

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Storm of Oklahoma City are expected to arrive this week at the home of Mrs. Storm's sister, Mrs. C. M. MacKenzie. Mr. Storm was the first mayor of Oklahoma City.

TRUTH WILL OUT, ART

Art Finster, proprietor of the Beacon drug store, Torrance, together with Mrs. Finster, left for a vacation trip Saturday morning. Art states that his destination will be Alaska before returning and the trip will be made by auto, seaplane and aeroplane. It is pretty well known, however, by those on the inside that Art is going only as far north as necessary to break in his new Buick car, in order that it will be in proper shape to make a trip to Ensenada, Mexico, on Labor Day.

MOTOR UP NORTH

Dr. and Mrs. A. H. Owens of Martina avenue are enjoying a vacation trip to Yosemite and San Francisco.

ROLLS ARE AT CITY HALL

Levy Against Each Piece of Property in Torrance Is Shown

PROTEST NIGHT SEPT. 2 Citizens May Inspect Tax Sheets Any Day and Object Before Trustees

Assessment rolls for the paving of Western avenue are now at the city hall for inspection by property owners. The rolls show the exact assessment made against every lot and piece of land in Torrance.

The total assessment amounts to \$78,677, including all costs of the improvement.

Property abutting directly on Western avenue and extending back approximately 300 feet on each side of the improved highway will pay 25 percent of the entire cost, according to the rolls. In addition, this property will bear its share of the city-wide assessment.

Property in the business district of the city is assessed approximately 40 cents a foot, while the assessments against residence property vary from approximately 20 cents to 30 cents per foot.

The assessments against industrial acreage are divided into three classes. Improved acreage close in is taxed about \$30 an acre, that in the intermediate district about \$20 an acre, and that acreage far out about \$10 an acre.

Any property-owner may inspect the rolls and find out the exact assessment made against his own or any other piece of land in the city limits.

Protests against assessments must be made at 8 o'clock Tuesday night, Sept. 2, at the city hall.

If the assessment rolls are approved by the board of trustees, the assessments will be immediately payable. Those who do not pay the entire amount will be allowed 10 years to retire the assessment, in which case bonds will be issued against property on which the entire total assessments have not been paid.

Trustees Vote Business Area Alley Paving

The board of trustees last night decided to pave alleys in the business district and half-block approaches to the commercial area.

The area to be improved was extended half a block on each side of the business area, in order to avoid abrupt drops due to differences in grade.

The city engineer and city attorney were instructed to prepare a resolution of intention to pave the alleys included in the area bounded by the following: Starting at the corner of Carson and Arlington, thence north on Arlington to the alley on the north side of Redondo boulevard, thence east on said alley to Cravens avenue, thence north on Cravens avenue to Border avenue, thence south on Border avenue to Carson street, thence west on Carson street to the point of beginning; the district also to include the north and south alley in Block 113, Torrance tract.

Carl Huntington of the Willite Paving Company assured the board that it is not the intention of the company to seek improvements against the wishes of the people of Torrance. "Our asphalt plant is here," he said, "and we naturally are anxious to know whether the board intends to do any more paving in the immediate future."

Observations

The Dawes Plan, Confidence, and Their Effect on World Economic Conditions—Slaves of the Sloganeers—Law and Manners
W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

IN its essence the Dawes plan contemplates the following:
1—Loan of \$200,000,000 to Germany, most of which will be floated in the United States.
2—Mortgaging of German railroads and industries for \$3,750,000,000.
3—Payment of reparations by Germany in the sum of \$650,000,000 a year until the account is balanced, first payment to start in two years.

4—Evacuation of the Ruhr by the French within a year.
It will readily be seen that the whole plan is built on confidence. Other nations and the international bankers will hold mortgages on German railroads and industries. But suppose Germany refuses to make her payments. In order to collect, it would be necessary to use armed force—to occupy the Ruhr again, which would throw the whole European situation back into the same muddle from which it now seems to be so happily emerging.

But international bankers who arranged the financial details of the plan have confidence that Germany, rehabilitated by the big loans, will be able to pay and will pay. They have the assurances of the big German bankers that there will be no dodging of the payments as they fall due.

Confidence is the basis of all business arrangements, between nations as well as between individuals. The fact that confidence has been restored in Europe makes acceptance of the Dawes plan the most heartening event that has transpired since the Armistice.

As long as this confidence exists world trade will proceed with reflected optimism. International credits, the basis of commerce, are again bolstered up. Economic conditions all over the earth already are improved, as indicated by the price of German bonds, foreign exchange, the price of grain in all major markets in the world, and the quotations on the London and New York stock exchanges.

That is important to every person in this country. The stabilization of international credit means better prices for farm products, a renewal of world commerce, an increase in American exports—all of which presages the early return of that acceptable condition characterized by the significant term, "the full dinner pail."

Whatever else international bankers may have failed to do for the world, in formulating the Dawes plan they have accomplished a feat that redounds to their own credit and insures profits not only for themselves, but for the whole world.

WE of the United States are slaves to labels and catch-phrases. During the war, in the worst possible way, we prevented the acceptance of any idea or opinion branded if at once pro-German and presto, his will was done.

After the war the most brazen method of killing an idea, discrediting an individual or discounting a deed was to utter that damning adjective "Bolshevistic."

He who can invent catchy labels in this country does not need to possess the qualities of a convincing debater in order to prove most any point or discredit any movement, individual or group. It is now interesting to note that the slogan-slavery is not confined entirely to the Americans. H. G. Wells tells us that the one certain way of discrediting anything at all in Russia is to sneer it out of favor as "capitalistic."

Which most certainly goes to prove that the Russian mentality is quite as puerile as our own.

Today the catch-word that dominates our national thought, if we can for a moment assume that there is such a thing as national thought, is this "100-percent American" shibboleth. It means as little as any other all-embracing term.

It is not that we object to the attempt at encouraging Americanism, a movement which the term implies, but that its general usage to designate almost everything that the speaker wishes to praise has detracted rather than added to the potency of the description.

The trouble with us in this matter of catch-phrases seems not to lie in the phrases themselves, but in their almost universal application to things, persons and deeds which in no way conform to the sloganized description.

Some time when the drudgery of the daily routine lets up a bit, we are going to start a "More Thought, Fewer Catch-Phrases" week.

That would be the American way of combating the power of the slogan, the real 100 per cent American way, wouldn't it? But then, someone might step up and kill our whole plan by labeling it Bolshevistic propaganda. What's the use?

THE recoil of human nature against "too many laws" was never interpreted more clearly, we believe, than by Lord Moulton in The Atlantic Monthly. A passage from this writer's treatise on law and manners was read to us by Dr. James P. Shidler, and struck us so forcibly that we cannot resist the desire to spread it broadcast to our readers as something vastly superior to anything we might write today in this column on the same important subject.

"First comes the domain of positive law, where our actions are prescribed by laws binding upon us which must be obeyed." Next comes the domain of free choice, which includes all those actions as to which we claim and enjoy complete freedom. But between these two there is a third large and important domain in which there rules neither positive law nor absolute freedom. In that domain there is no law which inexorably determines our course of action, and yet we feel that we are not free to choose as we would. The degree of this sense of a lack of complete freedom in this domain varies in every case. It grades from a consciousness of a duty nearly as strong as positive law, to a feeling that the matter is all but a question of personal choice. Some might wish to parcel out this domain into separate freedoms, calling one, for instance, the domain of duty, another the domain of public spirit, another the domain of good form; but I prefer to look at it as all one domain, for it has one and the same characteristics throughout—it is the domain of obedience to the unenforceable. This obedience is the obedience of a man to that which he cannot be forced to obey. He is the enforcer of the law upon himself.

"Thus there was wisely provided the intermediate domain which, so far as positive law is concerned, is a land of freedom of action, but in which the individual should feel that he was not wholly free. This country which lies between law and free choice

(Continued on Last Page)

CORE HOLE AHEAD AT 4400 FT.

Answer to Long-Debated Question About Second Sand Answered Soon

EVERY FOOT IS STUDIED

Company Brings Up Core-Barrel From Every Yard of Deep Strata

Is there a deep productive oil sand in the Torrance-Lomita oil field?

This question, debated by operators and observers since the field was discovered, will be answered soon.

It will be answered by the Shell Oil Company's Kettler No. 2, which is now drilling and coring continuously ahead below 4400 feet.

The history of this well is interesting. Originally when it had reached 4293 feet, six cement jobs, however, failed to shut off the water.

The company then became convinced that the casing was landed too high so the cement was drilled through and the casing pulled out.

A week ago the drill crew started drilling ahead, coring every foot of the way.

Cores taken out of the hole 1,100 to 1,150 feet showed streaks of sand, but contained water. Cores between 1,300 and 1,400 feet, however, showed oil, while no water was found. It is considered probable that the drill is now on top of a second sand. The company will continue to core and drill ahead.

If a second sand is discovered in the (Kettler) well, it will prove the rule that there is a deep sand in every Southern California field. Deep producing strata were discovered at Santa Fe Springs, Signal Hill and Huntington Beach.

The Kettler No. 2 is close to the high water zone of the field and is therefore more significant as a deep test than wells which have been drilled along the edges of the formation. The Kettler is on the northwest corner of the Shell's Kettler lease near the Pacific Electric tracks and just south of Redondo road.

McVeys Sell Local Theatre To Syndicate

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McVey today announced the sale of the Torrance Theatre to the Pacific Southwest Theatres, Inc. The sale was consummated late last week.

In announcing the transfer Mr. McVey said: "It was with considerable reluctance that we sold the theatre, but owing to Mr. McVey's ill-health we deemed it the wisest thing to do. Our associations in Torrance have been most pleasant during the three years of our management of the theatre here."

The new owners will take over the management of the theatre on September 1, but Mrs. McVey will remain with them until October 1.

Mr. and Mrs. McVey leased the theatre in the Auditorium building three years ago, and have operated the theatre since that time, making scores of friends in Torrance.

The Pacific Southwest Theatres, Inc., owns a string of theatres in the Southland, including the Mission at Ninth and Broadway in Los Angeles, three more Los Angeles show houses, one at Pasadena, one at Huntington Park, one at Bell, six at San Diego, and three at San Bernardino.

Officers of the company are as follows: A. H. Emehiser, president; Don P. Lawhead, secretary-treasurer; James D. Kent, vice-president.