

Covers the Torrance District Like a Blanket.

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PEOPLE WEST OF CITY PETITION FOR ANNEXATION TO TORRANCE

FORMAL DEDICATION OF NEW CLUBHOUSE SET FOR OCT. 29TH

Women's Organization Arranges Exercises for Opening of New Home, With National, State and District Officers Present at Ceremony

ALL PAST PRESIDENTS WILL ASSIST IN PROGRAM

All Civic Bodies in District Will Take Part in Ceremony Which Will Precede Open House for Inspection of Structure

Formal dedication of the new home of the Women's Club of Torrance will take place at the organization's new home on Engracia avenue, next Thursday afternoon, Oct. 29, at 2 p. m.

Representatives from many women's clubs of Southern California, and past grand officers of the national, state and district Federations of Women's Clubs will be present.

To Hold Open House Following the dedication ceremonies, over which Mrs. Carrie Parks, president of the club, will preside, open house will be held from 4 to 9 p. m.

At the dedication Mrs. Parks, the executive board of the club and all past presidents of the organization will receive guests.

Federation representatives who will speak are as follows: Mrs. Robert J. Burdette of Los Angeles, past officer of the National Federation of Women's Clubs; Mrs. John C. Urquhart of Los Angeles, past officer of the state federation, who installed the first officers of the Torrance club after its affiliation with the federation; Mrs. Charles Toll of Los Angeles, past district federation officer.

Other speakers will be Brian K. Welch and J. W. Post, who is president of the club corporation; Mrs. Jared Sidney Torrance; R. R. Smith, representing Torrance industries; Mayor Robert J. Deinger, representing the municipality; Carl L. Hyde, representing the Chamber of Commerce; representatives of the Business Men's Association and Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs; and a representative of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce.

Visitors Coming Two members from each of the women's clubs in neighboring cities have been invited. A special musical program has been arranged. Refreshments will be served. The dedication exercises will be attended by members of the club and stockholders in the corporation.

At 4 o'clock the building will be open for inspection by the public. Delegations from many nearby clubs are expected to attend the open house. Press representatives from many Southern California cities will also be present. A history of the Women's Club and complete description of the clubhouse, with a picture, appear on another page of this issue.—(Editor.)

New Industry Buys Land for Torrance Shop

Oil Tool Manufacturing Concern Will Erect Plant on 213th Street

Another new industry was assured for Torrance this week when G. E. Fritts, sole owner of the Safe Speed Tool Company, purchased a tract of land on 213th street near Western avenue and announced that he will erect a building for his plant next week.

The company at present has a plant at Harbor City, but increased business has necessitated larger quarters and additional facilities. Mr. Fritts chose Torrance as a location with the belief that this district will be the industrial center of Southern California in a few years.

The Safe Speed Tool Company manufactures sucker rod hangers and special oil tools for distribution among oil operators. The concern has enjoyed and is enjoying a widespread patronage throughout the west and the business is growing steadily.

The land acquired by Mr. Fritts was purchased from J. B. Hines and R. A. Huber. The property is large enough to take care of an expanding business for a number of years, Mr. Fritts said today.

Mr. Fritts first became interested in Torrance as a location for the industry through J. W. Post, president of the First National Bank. The purchase of the land was made through the agency of Gilbert, Hansen and Page.

The company will employ about ten expert employees at the outset.

Children Dance At Meeting of Torrance Club

Organization Entertained at New Clubhouse Tuesday Afternoon

The Women's Club of Torrance held their regular meeting and program in the auditorium of the clubhouse Tuesday afternoon. Mrs. Parks, president, called the meeting to order at 2 p. m. It is Mrs. Parks' policy to begin on time in order that the session may close at 4, thus doing away with the excuse that the members could not get home by dinner time.

Reports from the chairmen of the various committees were read, showing that all committees were active in their departmental work and keeping in touch with the District Federation through the conferences held once a month in Los Angeles.

A telegram of congratulation on the realization of the club women's dream, a home of their own, was read, from Mrs. Katherine Clark Stewart, who is in Chicago.

Mrs. Gordon Lewis Graves of Lomita, accompanied by Mrs. James M. Fitzhugh at the piano, sang a group of solos. Miss Mary Elizabeth Peckham gave a dance, "Sparkles," and Miss Virginia and Jeannette Mikelson danced the Pizzicato polka. These little misses are members of Miss Israel's dancing class.

Woman Who Sold Mexican Land Is Facing Charges

In view of the fact that several local residents are reported as among those who bought lands through the agency of Mrs. Harper, the following dispatch from Los Angeles is interesting:

"A federal grand jury indictment charging she engineered a huge fraudulent colonization scheme off the Mexican coast, was returned against Mrs. Ema M. Harper, wealthy land promoter of Hollywood, Tuesday.

"The indictment also charges misuse of the mails. "Government agents who investigated the case reported that Mrs. Harper had induced hundreds of colonists from various Pacific coast cities to invest their savings in a 'Garden of Eden' situated on a small island 45 miles south of Mazatlan. "Instead of the garden, the colonists found bare, unillable land, the agents said."

Observations

The Treaty of Locarno Opens the Portals of European Peace—An Ideal That Will Not Die—The New Burden of the White Man

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

WHEN the enlightened sons and daughters of enlightened mothers and fathers some centuries hence take their historical knowledge from the text-books of their day, they will probably pay more than passing attention to the date, October 16, 1925.

For on that day, in a hotel room overlooking the pretty lake of Locarno, Switzerland, dignitaries from great European powers agreed never to go to war with one another again.

The signing of the Treaty of Locarno is the first great official step toward permanent European peace that has ever been made. Treaties of peace have been signed in years gone by, but their terms have been imposed by victors upon vanquished.

The Locarno treaty, on the contrary, is a pact entered into voluntarily. For that reason it promises to send a new note of international concord singing down the years.

THERE may be those who deem my enthusiasm over this new treaty too exuberant. And they may be right. Still, a somewhat casual acquaintance with world history and average knowledge of human perfections and flaws lead me to conclude that a wholly new step in an entirely new international direction was taken at Locarno last Friday.

Let us consider this step a moment. Germany and France agreed flatly never to war again. So do Germany and Belgium. Each of these three nations signs to submit any and all troubles to arbitration. Alike agreement is reached between Poland and Germany, and Germany and Czechoslovakia. France and Germany agree to the complete demilitarization of the Rhine. France agrees to evacuate the Saar and Cologne. England and Italy agree to assist any of the nations in case of aggression.

THERE is a large dose of peace-medicine for suffering old Europe, and the fact that these nations signed such a treaty is not half as important as the mental attitude which prompted them to sign.

At Versailles Woodrow Wilson sought such agreement, but the selfish hatreds of the old world prevented the adoption of any "idealistic" treaty.

Now it appears that the ideas which Wilson so admirably espoused have taken root and blossomed. What he failed to do while alive, the thought waves which he set in motion accomplished after his death.

That is the bright phase of this whole Locarno business. It marks the end—at least the beginning of the end—of the old European order. Prior to 1914 such a treaty would have been utterly impossible. It was impossible even in 1918-1919. But in 1925 it is actually signed.

TO the student of history a few centuries hence, the years from 1914 to 1925 will be discerned as a short, brief span. He will trace the causes and effects of activities in Europe and the Americas with clear vision. There is little doubt that he will regard the Treaty of Locarno as a direct result of ideas emanating from the United States during the World War and spreading over Europe after the Armistices.

So I say that the mental attitude which made the treaty possible is even more important than the treaty itself. Treaties are scraps of paper only when public opinion is opposed to the precepts they contain. Locarno, if it marks anything at all, indicates a change of mental attitude on the part of European people and statesmen.

I DO not believe we can overestimate the importance of this treaty. Even if it is some time cast to the winds as human hatreds wipe out the peaceful intentions that brought it into being, even then those peaceful intentions will not permanently be destroyed. The people of the world generally deplore war. They always have. But their nationalism has been paramount to their love of peace. Hence wars have always been possible. The problem of how to eliminate war from the human program has always been one of psychology. As soon as people learn to abhor war more than they hate their neighbors, peace will be everlasting.

The treaty of Locarno crystallizes a world-wide love of concord that rises up from the firesides of peaceful homes. It is the focus of a definite light that shines in the soul of every civilized man during his noblest moments. It lifts Peace on high and crowns it with Hope. It marks at least the beginning of a new era in Europe.

I DO not think that the Treaty of Locarno will end war for all time. But I believe it will prevent war among the great powers of Europe. It has taken centuries of strife in Europe to make Locarno possible. Only recently, as one counts time, has communication between nations of Europe been easy, transportation rapid. Depressing as it may be, it now seems that the understanding which made this new treaty possible in Europe, is reposing in the far dim future of Asia.

It must be evident to all and sundry that more than one element entered into consideration before the powers signed the Locarno pact. An outraged public opinion against the hate-treaty of Versailles, growth of the ideal of peace as espoused by Wilson, inability of progress in any direction under present conditions—these prompted the new treaty. But there was something more.

LOCARNO means peace in Europe, perhaps. But it also means a new blossoming of race consciousness. The white race originated in Asia. Mongolians pushed the white men westward to Europe and then shoved the Caucasians down on the comparatively little peninsula of that vast area of land known as Asia and Europe.

The Americans were discovered. They saved the white race from complete domination by Asiatics. And now the white race has carried its flag to the far-western outposts of the Occident.

All through these years of ever-shifting population, white men have engaged in suicidal wars, killing one another off. Today Islam has risen. Statesmen sitting at Locarno are not unmindful of Africa, India and the far east. In writing the treaty they could not have been unaware that the pact is a safeguard against a possible common enemy.

Let us hope, however, that those higher ideals which actuated the nations signing the treaty will be carried over the world to bring forth a world-wide understanding in time to prevent a colossal clash between the races. * * * * * LOCARNO opens the portals to peace, among white men. May its agreements never be broken. Will the white race be able to carry the tenets of this treaty around the world? Only by conducting themselves in their relations with Asia and Africa according to the highest teachings of Jesus, Moses, Buddha, Confucius, and Mohammed. The peace that passeth understanding is born only of the Golden Rule.

P. E. Shops Go Back on Full Time Schedule

Six-Day-Week Basis Starts At Big Plant on Monday

After operating at reduced schedules for a year, the Pacific Electric Railway Company shops went back on full time this week.

The resumption of the six-days-a-week schedule was officially announced by Superintendent Geibel at the Pacific Electric mechanical department dance Saturday night.

The announcement was confirmed Monday by Ed Straub at the shops.

News of full-time work at the shops was welcomed by the hundreds of employees who live in Torrance and vicinity and who have been working part time for months.

Mr. Straub said today that the full-time schedule would be in operation certainly until Jan. 1, and possibly after that.

2000 Witness Demonstration By Fire Dept.

Volunteers in Comic and Serious Exhibition at the Fiesta Grounds

Two thousand persons watched the Torrance Volunteer Fire Department stage a demonstration of fire fighting last Thursday night.

The exhibition was both comic and serious. A two-story house erected on the Fiesta grounds was set on fire. The firemen attired in burlesque costumes and made up like "hicks" arrived with equipment of the vintage of about 1880. They attacked the flames with a stream running from a hand-pump through a bamboo pole. A poor old colored "woman" leaped from the second story of the structure just as the hungry tongues of flames were warming her posterior.

After the demonstration, which the crowd enjoyed greatly, Rev. B. H. Lingensfelder delivered a brief address on the importance of fire prevention. The department then staged a splendid exhibition of hose running. A ladder was shot up to the top of the Antlers Hotel building in record time, and two minutes after the department arrived two streams of water were shooting from the nozzles on top of the building.

The crowd applauded the efficiency and speed of the department.

Filmland Stars Give Torrance Folks Surprise

Members of Film Cast Attend Preview Here in Person Wednesday

Patrons of the Torrance Theatre were given a surprise party last night when they discovered after watching a screening of "Steel Preferred" that all the members of the cast in the picture and numerous other Hollywood celebrities were present.

The picture was shown in Torrance as a preview for the east and technicians of the Metropolitan studio. This city was chosen because the producers wished to see how an audience in a "steel" town reacted to the film. The picture was received with much applause here.

Among the screen folk who were present at the preview were William Boyd, Charley Murray, Walter Long, and Director James Hogan. William Boyd is Cecil DeMille's latest "find." Patrons of the theatre watched Boyd, Long and Murray on the screen and then were surprised to see them standing in the lobby after the show. The attendance of the screen personages was a surprise even to Manager Anderson of the theatre.

"Steel Preferred" is the screen version of the Saturday Evening Post story by Herschel Hall.

LOWER TAXES SPUR IN MOVE TO CARRY LIMITS TO REDONDO

Formal Request for Special Election Made to Torrance Board of Trustees by Voters Residing in 1800 Acres Proposed for Annexation

APPROVAL WILL CLOSE UP BREACH BETWEEN CITIES

Tax Rate in Torrance Lower Than That in Unincorporated Area; District Includes Del Amo Ranch, C.-C. M. O. Camp, and Potential Residence Area

Motivated by the fact that taxes in Torrance are less than those paid by the owners of property in the unincorporated district west of Torrance, residents of the area between Torrance and Redondo Beach Monday night formally petitioned the Torrance Board of Trustees for annexation to Torrance.

The petition, signed by more than one-fourth of the registered voters in the district seeking annexation, requested that the trustees call an election on the question without delay.

The trustees authorized the city attorney to draft an ordinance calling the election and stipulating the polling places. The date for the election was not set.

The area proposed for annexation is approximately 1800 acres. Its boundaries are the eastern boundary of Redondo Beach on the west, the present Torrance limits on the east, an extension of the southern limits of Torrance on the south, and an extension of the northern limits of Torrance on the north.

Would Close Breach If the election is carried, the western limits of Torrance will be the present eastern limits of Redondo Beach. The proposal, in short, is for the extension of the present north and south limits of Torrance to the beach city, and will, if approved by the voters in the area, make the entire area from the sea to the Los Angeles boulevard a part of an incorporated municipality.

Lower taxes in Torrance, the belief that required improvements, police and fire protection can be more readily secured through Torrance than through the county, and the desire to protect themselves against any possible plan to annex their homes to the city of Los Angeles, are among the considerations paramount in the minds of the petitioners.

The annexation movement started about three months ago, when several residents of the area west of Torrance called on the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for figures and data on taxes. Carl L. Hyde, secretary of the chamber, made an exhaustive study of comparative tax rates and found that the rate in the unincorporated area west of the city is higher than it is in Torrance. Confronted with these facts and aware of the low bonded indebtedness of Torrance, these residents immediately called a

meeting of property owners. At this meeting the tax situation was explained and the residents requested that annexation petitions be drawn.

Seventeen Sign Seventeen registered voters signed the petition last week. They were: E. S. Frenger, Mary E. Frenger, W. A. Felker, Margaret Felker, David Vaccan Jr., Mrs. David Vaccan Jr., Charles M. Kirk, Laurence Edwin, Felicia Edwin, Homer Rogers, Joe Casarez, Albert Casarez, T. W. Morelock, Mrs. May Morelock, A. E. Gish.

The tract proposed for annexation includes a large portion of the Del Amo ranch, the Chanslor-Casfield Midway Oil Company shop and camps, oil territory north of Redondo Boulevard, and a large tract of excellent potential residential area to the north.

There are at present about 60 registered voters in the district proposed for annexation. The population of the area is approximately 300. Its assessed valuation is something over a million dollars. The saving in taxes that the property owners of the district will accomplish by joining Torrance will run into several thousand dollars a year.

A majority of the registered voters of the district affected is required to carry the election for annexation.

Oil Nine Wins 12-Inning Game Play on Sunday

Hawthorne and C.-C. M. O. Will Meet at Baseball Again

Next Sunday afternoon at the Ollers' park the Hawthorne and Chanslor-Casfield Midway Oil clubs will lock horns in the second of another three-game series. The first game, which was staged at the Ollers' park last Sunday, went to the locals after 12 innings by a score of 4 to 3. The next game is certain to be a red hot affair and one that all local fans will want to see. If you enjoy a good, snappy game of baseball you should not fail to see these two fast clubs in action. The game will be called promptly at 2:30.

Torrance Company Opens L. B. Branch

The California Oil Tool Company has opened a branch at Long Beach. The new plant, specializing in oil field repair work, is located at 205 East Twenty-ninth street, west of American avenue. It is equipped to provide full repair service to the Long Beach district.

High Grid Team Loses Game But Displays Spirit

Excelsior Eleven of Norwalk Annexes Match by Score of 27 to 6

Torrance met defeat at the hands of the Excelsior eleven of Norwalk last Friday afternoon in the first football game of the season. The score was 27 to 6—Norwalk ahead.

The T. H. S. team was on its toes all the time. Ray, Sleppy, captain, made the first touchdown of the season. "Stud" Zuver was always at the bottom of the pile with the ball. "Fat" Radson, center, with his six bodyguards, was working wonders. Verne, Rowell acts as a stone wall for holding the line. Clifford Ruppel and Curly LeClercq were showing some speedy work at half.

One of our steadiest linemen was Dutch Richhart. Teddy Rathburn, left guard, and Floyd Chandler, left tackle, were playing like Trojans. Defending the right side of the line were Myrie Bacon and Dick Patterson. "Stepladder" Briney made the longest kick in the game. The two ends, John Fiesel and Jack Reeve, were working their hardest. On the bench were the "ready-players," John Reynolds, Melville Jarrett, Alfred Pennington, Bob Bartlett, and Earl Hagar.

The team did wonderfully despite its lack of experience.

Donald Findley Is Named to Planning Body by Trustees

Donald Findley was appointed as a member of the City Planning Commission by Mayor J. Deinger and the Board of Trustees Monday night. Mr. Findley takes the place of W. Harold Kingsley, who resigned. In a letter to the trustees Mr. Kingsley stated his resignation was necessary owing to the press of business and other civic duties.

Mrs. Shidler Is Parent-Teacher Ass'n President

Executive Board Chooses Successor for Mrs. Rees, Resigned

At the executive board meeting of the P.-T. A., held Tuesday in Mr. Bell's office, Mrs. George P. Shidler was elected to the president's office to succeed Mrs. Fred Rees, who resigned.

A tag day is planned for the first week in November, to raise funds to buy necessities for the school, and everyone will be asked for a 10-cent donation.

The drive for new members is on. All parents having children in either school are urged to pay their dues and attend the meetings.

Next Tuesday, Oct. 27, at 2 p. m., the regular P.-T. A. meeting will be held. A good program is being planned, including a group of songs by the kindergarten pupils, a piano solo by Frederick Shidler, and a talk on "The Cost of Education" by Mr. Bell.

All mothers and grandmothers are requested to register at each meeting from the room for which they wish to vote. The aquarium for the room having most mothers present is now in room 14 and is jointly enjoyed by the children.

Automatic Flash Signals to Go Up On Western Avenue

Automatic flash signals will be placed at once at the curve on Western avenue in Torrance. The Torrance trustees Monday night authorized the clerk to enter into a contract with the Automobile Club of Southern California. The club will supply the lights and posts, the city will erect them, the club will maintain them, and the city will pay for upkeep, electricity and repairs. Two flashes will be erected, one facing El Prado and the other facing Western avenue.