

Lights EDITORIAL

The Herald believes that it is high time for city officials and private citizens to forget their differences of opinion as to posts and lighting units and strive from this moment forward to reach an agreement which will guarantee that Torrance shall have lights.

If the deadlock on the City Council continues it is possible that all the advantages won through the competitive pre-estimate plan will be written off and that Torrance shall remain in darkness for some time to come.

That would be unfortunate. Torrance needs lights. The people of Torrance want lights. And it is up to every person who has been in any way connected with the negotiations to be willing to set aside their own views so that the chief object of the whole proceedings—the securing of lights—may be realized.

Since the start of the proceedings under the pre-estimate plan The Herald has entertained an idea as to the type of installation which should be installed. So have city officials. So have many other citizens. It is well that many of these views differed. For it is through difference of opinion that the best results are obtained. But it is both foolhardy and childish for any person of official to refuse to judge from his own ideas for the sake of an agreement for the benefit of the whole city. The individual who has a firm conviction and strives to convince others that he is right is doing his duty toward his city.

On the other hand when conviction turns into stubbornness no good results at all.

The Herald wishes to make plain, as its editor has repeatedly made plain, that it will stand behind the council in any decision that body may make, no matter what that decision may be. A lighting system is more important than any particular type of post. The people expect the council to install lights. The council should do its duty—and he who is not willing to set aside his own private convictions as to type of post and lighting units is, standing in the way of progress.

The Herald has the utmost respect for all individuals who had definite ideas on the subject. We likewise respect these individuals for trying to win others to their way of thinking. But that respect must disappear if these persons are not willing to give way before the pressing demand for a decision.

The editor of The Herald was a member of the original lighting committee. That committee in a signed public statement went on record as ready to stand by any decision the council might make. That statement stood and still stands.

But the council has not been able to make a decision. They should do so at once.

Above everything else The Herald is for lights. Let the council break this deadlock and make a decision. Whether that decision be for King, Union Metal, Westinghouse or what met The Herald will be for it to the last ditch—and we trust that others who have had definite convictions on the subject may be equally pronounced.

W. HAROLD KINGSLEY.

WEEK'S WORLD NEWS

Is the billboard trust operating in restraint of trade? The government thinks so. An injunction against the General Outdoor Advertising Company, charging violation of the anti-trust law was filed by the government in New York. The government asserts that recent amalgamations among billboard companies brought about a monopoly.

The people of California will vote in November on the question of repealing the state "prize-fight" laws. Sufficient signatures to place the matter on the ballot have been secured.

The nomination acceptance speeches of Herbert Hoover and Al Smith will be broadcast over the country. Mr. Hoover's address will be made on Aug. 11 at 5 p. m. Pacific Coast time. Mr. Smith will speak some night during the week of Aug. 19, the time to be announced later. The National Broadcasting company is paying the expenses for both radio events.

To John Henry Meers and B. D. Colyer go the latest speed championship. Landing in Manhattan at 8:21 p. m., July 23 they completed the swiftest round-the-world trip in history—23 days, 15 hours, 21 minutes and 3 seconds. The previous record held by Lin-ton Wells and Edward Evans was more than 28 days. The men used a folding wing plane in crossing the continents. They travelled by steamer across the oceans.

One hundred thousand persons is a large crowd. Multiply that number by four and you may have a picture of the throng which paraded—singing—in Vienna. A political celebration? No. A carnival? No. Just a tribute to a man who wrote (Continued on last page)

Torrance Herald

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DEADLOCK REIGNS AGAIN

City Council Fails to Reach Agreement on Lighting Problem

TAXPAYERS URGE ACTION

Session of Board Is Marked by Pleas for Decision

Once more Old Man Deadlock reigned supreme at a Torrance City Council meeting when another effort was made Tuesday night to reach an agreement over the lighting installation question in Torrance.

Once more a motion to specify a certain type of post was made and failed to secure a second. Once more citizens and taxpayers pleaded with the council to take action so that the proceedings which so far have brought low estimates to the advantage of Torrance might not go for nothing.

The meeting was marked by much more dignity than prevailed three weeks ago when lighting company salesmen swept the council chamber with floods of vaudeville oratory. But despite this fact no action was possible.

DeKalb Spurlin, owner of more residential property than any other single individual in Torrance and whose lighting installation bill will be about \$1800, pleaded for the council to take some sort of action. He asked that each councilman place himself on record. As a result the following commitments were made:

Mayor Dennis—favors King installation.

Councilman Wolfe—favors Westinghouse installation.

Councilman Inman—not on record as to any one type, but asks that the people be allowed to choose.

Councilman Maxwell—made a motion specifying King installation, adding he would be for either cast iron type favored by a majority of the board.

City Engineer Leonard—favors King installation.

Had Councilman Raymond been present Tuesday night the King installation would have been specified, for Mr. Raymond is on record in favor of King, and had his vote been available Tuesday three votes would have been cast for King.

After a discussion of Pacific Electric requirements for combination trolley and light poles by Roy Winters and City Engineer Leonard, Councilman Maxwell moved that the council rescind its action of three weeks ago in which it was stipulated that a new committee be appointed. Councilmen Wolfe and Mayor Dennis voted to rescind the previous action. Councilman Inman voted no.

Later Mr. Maxwell made a motion that the council approve the recommendation of the city engineer and authorize the drafting of a resolution of intention specifying King posts. The motion died for want of a second.

Councilman Wolfe then stated his position. He declared that he favored Westinghouse because it is California product, costing only slightly more than a cast iron product manufactured in the east. He pointed out that the first lighting committee and the council were unanimous for cast iron and said "We all live here and all get our money here. The Westinghouse installation would cost us only \$2600 more with the price per foot in the residence district being even less."

Mayor Dennis reiterated his previously stated reasons for being in favor of King installation. He declared that the difference between the King and Westinghouse bids originally was \$12,000 and that he never had been convinced that amount was covered by a proportionate increase in value. He said that the Westinghouse reduction is a point where their estimate was only \$2600 above the King figure was made after City Engineer Leonard had prepared his report for the council.

In subsequent remarks the mayor declared that any lighting company and any industrial corporation would take the recommendation of a competent engineer. He said he had confidence in Engineer Leonard and was for King posts because of Mr. Leonard's statement.

Mr. Spurlin then asked Mr. Inman and Mr. Leonard to state their positions.

Mr. Leonard recited the foot costs in each district as presented by King, Union Metal and Westinghouse. He made it clear as was set forth in last week's Torrance Herald that the cost of extra cast (Continued on Last Page)

Observations

The Death of Obregon—Mr. Hoover and Mr. Smith Take Some Bunk Out of Campaigning—Ugly Events on an Iceberg?

By W. HAROLD KINGSLEY

THE assassination of President-Elect Obregon of Mexico was a severe setback to the movement for stable government in our neighboring republic.

The Obregon and Calles administrations have in the main accomplished much toward bringing order out of Mexican chaos. Had Obregon lived to take over the reins of government it seems likely that the republic's strides toward still greater stability would have been lengthened.

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HOWEVER, it must not be forgotten that the rule of murder in Mexico, of which the Obregon assassination was a part, did not begin with the death of the president-elect.

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WHEN Obregon first announced his candidacy to succeed Calles outstanding opponents to his succession arose. They were Gomez and Serrano. Both were charged with leading a revolt, run down by federal soldiers and shot. There are many in Mexico who believe that the charge of revolt lodged against these two was trumped up as a means of doing away with Obregon's chief and only strong opponents. As to that we cannot testify. The politics of Mexico are somewhat too involved to be clearly understood by one who is removed from the republic and has taken his Mexican news during the past few years through the filter of a careful and biased censorship.

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DESPITE all this the fact remains that Obregon's death bodes little good for Mexico and Mexicans.

It reveals how one poor misguided soul with a gun can upset the destiny of a people and alter the fate of nations.

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TWO most refreshing innovations have been inaugurated by Mr. Herbert Clark Hoover and Alfred Emmanuel Smith. Mr. Hoover, presented by a doting mother with a baby and the request that the candidate kiss the infant, smilingly but firmly declared that he will "kiss no babies for publication."

Mr. Smith imperturbed by photographers to pose for a picture while laying bricks replied that such a picture would be "baloney" and that he intended to allow no "baloney" pictures in his campaign.

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THUS do two great American political doctrines find their way to limbo. The hale-fellow candidate who stumped through the precincts kissing every child within reach is no more.

The candidate who strives for votes through the medium of "applesauce" photographs is likewise one with the dodo bird.

All credit to Mr. Hoover and Mr. Smith. Whatever else we may think of them we must join in a unanimous chorus of approval for their individually arrived-at antipathy to political humbug.

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ONE reads with repulsion the rumors of cannibalism aboard the floating iceberg on which one contingent of the ill-fated Italia waited through endless days and nights for relief.

Yet one is struck by the thought that men in such a position remain no longer men; that the standards of the outside world no longer hold; that sane minds, subjected to such an ordeal, become insane.

No doubt the rumors should be run down. No doubt any person guilty of such atrocities such as are hinted should pay the extreme penalty. But such a person should not be judged or tried by individuals who know not the bleak terrors of the Arctic. Let only those who too have gone through the ordeal sit in judgment.

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MEN rise to immortal heights and sink to the lowest depths of degradation when faced by the threat of slow death from starvation in the bitter wastes of the north.

Often is the tale of the two extremes told. Commander Byrd recalled two contrasting incidents only recently.

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NO. 1—Four men were marooned with a meagre food supply. Relief would be slow in coming, might never come. Food was rationed out in pitifully small portions. One night one of the four arose stating that he was going out to investigate a noise. Another watched him, saw him dip into the food stores and gobble up a large quantity of the precious rations. The other three killed him.

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NO. 2—Four men were waiting on the ice while two others fought south for more supplies. Food was low. The four were slowly starving. One night one of the men left the little cave saying he was going out in search of game. He went out into the black, cold night. He never came back. They found a note later. It said that he had gone into the waste to die because he knew that three could live longer than four on the small food supply at hand; that it was better for one to die that three might live than for four to die.

* * *

ADMIRATION wells up for the martyr, disgust mingled with pity for the weakling.

Yet how many of us should—are fit to judge? How many of us would have the strength of the martyr? How many the cravenness of the dastard?

* * *

AND so those poor tried souls on the iceberg off Spitzbergen deserve our deepest pity, even though it may, by developments, be mingled with scorn.

If the laws of God and man were broken they were broken under such duress as few of us would be able to withstand.

Save Beaches for the People Supervisor McClellan's Plea

Speaking before the Rotary Club of Torrance last Thursday Supervisor R. F. McClellan declared that Los Angeles County should take steps at once to save the beaches for the public.

He urged Rotarians to stand behind a movement to make county parks of beach property before all of the beaches are covered with

CLUB WILL BOOST CITY

Women Volunteers to Take Charge of Torrance Booth at Expo

SHOW HOME PRODUCTS

Local Exhibit at L. B. Event Is Attractive and Instructive

Co-operation between the Women's Club and the Torrance Chamber of Commerce will lead a real "home-town" touch to the Torrance booth at the Pacific Southwest Exposition which will open at Long Beach tomorrow and last all summer.

The Chamber has arranged a most attractive booth, filled with Torrance industrial exhibits and topped by a Neon sign advertising Torrance, the Modern Industrial City.

The Women's Club will provide volunteers to stay in this booth each day during the exposition. Women who volunteer will be asked to take charge of the booth one day a week. Members of the Women's Club who are willing to help are requested to communicate with the club president, Mrs. W. M. Brooks, Phone 52-VV.

Body of Drowned Man Recovered

The body of W. W. Gilbert who was drowned off Terminal Island on July 15 was recovered last Thursday afternoon. Funeral services were held at the Stone and Myers chapel Saturday afternoon.

Rev. Young of the Methodist church officiated. Cremation took place at Inglewood.

Scores of tributes to the well known young man were sent by his host of friends. A touching verse accompanied the floral offering sent by Mr. Gilbert's associates at the Pacific Electric shops. It was written by Mrs. Eugenia Wilson. The poem follows:

Peaceful be thy silent slumber,
Peaceful, as we come and go,
Thou no more will join our number,
Thou no more this job will know;
Soon, our friend, we'll come and meet thee,
As in days that now are dead;
And in Heaven we hope to greet thee,
Where no farewell tears are shed.

Deny Permit for Used Car Market

The council stood two to two on a motion made by Councilman Wolfe to grant J. C. Smith a permit for an open used car market on Cabrillo avenue.

Councilman Inman voted in favor of granting the license. Mayor Dennis and Councilman Maxwell voted against the motion.

City Attorney Briney in an opinion declared that under the city zoning law the council had authority to refuse the permit.

Attorney Jensen, representing Mr. Smith declared that the lot would continue to be used as a used car lot and let the city try to enforce its ruling in the courts.

Columbia Chief Requests Lights

N. A. Becker, efficiency and construction engineer of the Columbia Steel Corporation and now in charge of the company's plant here addressed a communication to the city council asking that street lights be installed near the plant.

Mr. Becker's letter declared that midnight traffic at the plant is exceptionally heavy and that street lighting is sorely needed.

Aug. 5 Torrance Day at Catalina Isle; Crowd Going

Sunday Aug. 5 will be Torrance Day at Catalina Island and a big crowd of local enthusiasts is expected to journey to the Magic Isle to watch the Torrance ball team play the Catalina Cubs.

The crowd will enjoy reduced rates to the island—the fare being \$2 for the round trip. Saturday boats leave at 10 a. m. and at 8:30 p. m. Most of the local contingent is going on the afternoon boat.

Tickets may be secured at the P. E. depot or from Ed Tansey, 1625 Cabrillo avenue.

The ball game will be played Sunday morning. Ed Tansey and Charles Mueller are in charge of the event.

Guaranteed paint, \$1.65 gallon Consolidated Lumber Co., Torrance.

KLUSMANISM, THE MENACE

The men and women of Torrance who have since the incorporation of the city been interested enough in the welfare of their community to take an active part in civic affairs have proved themselves world champions for taking punishment. They have exercised a restraint in the face of slanderous innuendo such as one seldom is privileged to witness. They have gone ahead about their business with courage firm and heads high while mud and filth has been hurled at their heads. And it strikes us that it is high time that they struck back at the individual who has for years taken it upon himself to fight against every worth while movement, every progressive step and every individual who has tried to devote some valuable time to the affairs of Torrance. We have no issue with anyone who holds an honestly arrived at difference of opinion. We hold no grudge, with or without reservations, for citizens who have opposed various measures because of reasonable conviction that those measures were not worth while.

But we have an issue—and so should the whole city of Torrance—with the tangled variety of person who will stoop to the use of any type of tools to inject poison into the hearts of our citizenry, halt the advancement of Torrance in order to promote his own dreams of power and stoop to the most despicable variety of insinuation in order to muddy issues otherwise clear and dirty the reputations of decent men and women of this city.

We refer of course to William T. Klusman.

The record of this individual in Torrance has been one of constant and radical agitation, one of poison dodgers, one of unremitting hatred and one of consuming selfishness for personal aggrandizement.

Not a single individual has served on the Torrance City Council but has been the butt of ugly Klusmanesque attacks. Not a person has been active in any major civic activity but has directly or indirectly been subjected to his mudslinging.

Heretofore The Herald has refrained from answering the diatribes of this wild-eyed individual. But there is a limit to all patience and as a newspaper, proud of the city in which it circulates, jealous of the good name of that city and devoted to its best interests, we feel that it is our duty—unpleasant though it may be—to take up the cudgel in Torrance for decency and justice.

Are we of Torrance to allow ourselves to be bludgeoned and blackened by this ugly Klusmanism? Not as long hereafter as there is plenty of white paper and ink in this establishment.

Klusmanism began its poison career when Torrance incorporated. It has grown and prospered like a parasite on a plant ever since.

Klusmanism fought the purchase of the sewer farm. Later the sewer farm became proved oil land. Had the city bought it when the purchase was possible the treasury of Torrance would have been fattened with rich royalties.

Klusmanism, standing with clay feet on a faked platform of the best interests of Torrance had the temerity to oppose the paving of Western avenue at a time when no main thoroughfare led into the city of Torrance. That street was paved over and above the protestations of this mud-tossing individual and since that day Klusman himself has had the lack of consistency to declare that he never opposed it.

Klusmanism blocked the purchase of the Torrance Water, Power and Light Company, yet that same company has recently been sold to a private corporation at a price much larger than was asked of the city.

Klusman fought with all the vindictiveness and hatred at his command against the vacation of "paper streets" so that the Santa Fe might create an industrial subdivision in this city. Those streets were vacated. The Santa Fe re-platted the land and has already dedicated back to the city more area in the improved portion than was vacated and will dedicate more back as the acreage is developed.

Today Klusman, chortling with unholy glee because Torrance, like all other cities in the same situation, is confronted by a difference of opinion of street light, is seizing the opportunity to poison neighbor against neighbor.

Is this gentleman suffering from delusions of grandeur? What does he want? What is he seeking? Penetrate beneath the surface of his blatherings and you will see the answer written plain. He wants nothing but the gloating which comes to a certain type of individuals from casting mud at others—like a small boy throwing dirt at a plate-glass window.

The gloatings of such are not wanted in Torrance. At the polls repeatedly the people of Torrance have said so. Yet the mouthings and blatherskite attacks continue. As the parasite takes its own life from the tree while the tree dies, so Klusman seeks always to fatten his own self-esteem even though he destroy the progress of his city while doing so.

Let us examine the mouthings of this individual a little closer. Did anyone ever hear him publicly make a direct charge against the honesty of any official or citizen? No. He dares not for he knows that if he did all the powers of American justice would be turned upon him. His attempt to place in the minds of the public the thought that things in Torrance are not as they should be are all made by inference and intimation. If the penetrating wisdom of this gentleman is so astute, why doesn't he come out flatly and directly with what he tries to insinuate?

The reason is that he knows the inferences he is making are not true.

Else why is it necessary for him to submit his blatherings to a libel and slander attorney before he speads them into print?

The reason is that Klusman knows his intimations are false and does not dare to step over the line into the realm of actual criminal libel and slander for he knows what the penalty would be if he did.

It is not our intention at this time to take up all the inferences of Klusmanism in detail. But a study of one of his recent dodgers will reveal to the public something of the manner in which this person's mind works.

Klusman's sheetlet declared: "It cost the taxpayers \$7,200 to let the Chamber (of Commerce) spend \$1814.13 for advertising and the \$600.00 for surveying, etc."

That statement is a gross misrepresentation by inference. The \$7,200 of which Klusman speaks, hinting at misappropriations, was expended in a manner which everyone or anyone in Torrance can see and know. It is all on the books at the City Hall and at the Chamber of Commerce office, as Mr. Klusman well knows. The obvious fact of the matter is Mr. Klusman does not want the people to know all the facts for if they did they would not fall for his poison utterances.

Out of that \$7,200 to which Mr. Klusman so snakily alludes were paid the costs of all other than newspaper publicity, booklets which went all over the country; billboard advertising, electric signs, the city's community Christmas tree, the city's Armistice Day program, commercial promotion, the refunding of bus fares to shoppers in Torrance, the various forms of civic promotion, the uniforms for the Torrance baseball team and pay for some of the players on that team; the cost of the Mothers' Educational Center, the maintenance of a free employment bureau in Torrance, annexation promotion expenses which returned money to Torrance by the hundredfold; in-

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