



rald

Torrance
Population
8200

5c per Copy

Transportation

Fremont Pass

Less than two hundred yards from one of Southern California's most traveled highways stands an almost forgotten old mountain pass; at one time the veritable maker of the State's history. Although many thousands of hurrying motorists pass through Newhall tunnel every day, scarcely anyone slows up to glance at the romance-laden Fremont Pass through which General John C. Fremont and his sturdy men trudged to turn Californians into American citizens.

With its tortuous twenty-nine per cent grade, its sheer walls that rise to a height of eighty feet, the old entrance into Southern California from the San Joaquin Valley was for many a year the only direct route from north to south. Who was responsible for its construction is not known. Aged, weather-beaten pioneers who still live nearby, however, tell tales of a two-room adobe-house that at one time stood on a flat at the south entrance of the pass where grew an almond and an oak tree.

Even today the house stands, walls beaten down by time; an oak and an almond tree still grow bravely.

With the opening of the Newhall tunnel in 1910, the deep defile in the mountains passed out of history so far as actual travel was concerned. It remained abandoned and forgotten save for motion picture companies who found it an ideal "location" or an occasional sentimentalist who would peer into its dark chasm with awe, almost reverence.

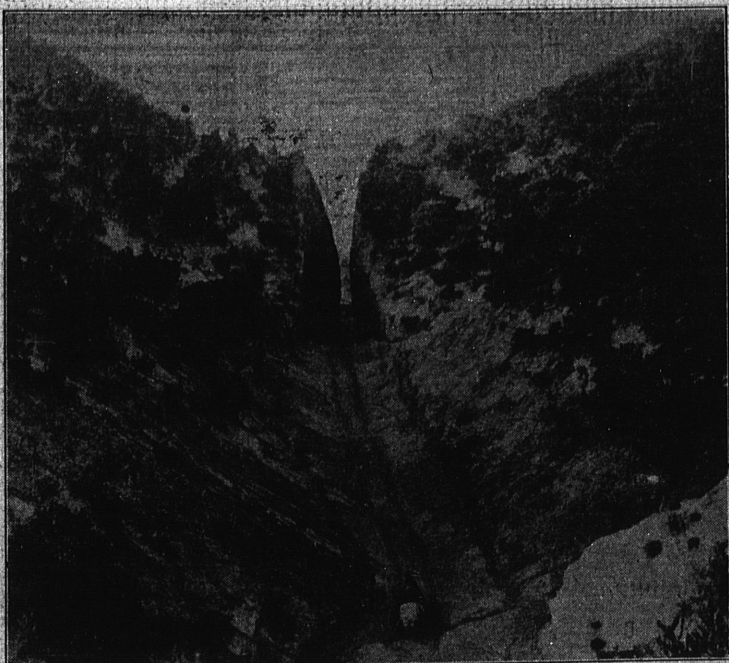
Dark is the pass except for a fleeting noonday moment when the sun is overhead. To one ignorant of its history it is like a deserted tomb. When regarded with retrospection, it becomes a treasure chest of memories and sentiments—a sanctuary to be entered with bare-headed veneration.

So deep a mystery does the origin of this pass remain that neither the Los Angeles Public Library nor the State Library at Sacramento contains a single document to throw light on it. About the only mention of the landmark which California history can offer is supplied by a published diary of Bishop Kip, who, on October 5, 1855, started on a trip from Los Angeles to Fort Tejon. He wrote: "We left Los Angeles at 11 o'clock. Our vehicle was a large, heavy wagon, for no other is adapted to the mountain passes through which our road leads. We had hardly got out on the plains a couple of miles from Los Angeles (between Los Angeles and the Hollywood of today) . . . when, in descending a gulch, part of the harness broke, the mules whirled around and we were only saved from an overturn by the snapping of the axle. Nothing could be done but for our driver to take a couple of miles, return to Los Angeles and have a new one made."

"After a wait of some hours we made a new set-off. We shortly passed through a chain of hills . . . (the Calhenga Pass) . . . and then again over the plains for seventeen miles. Not a living object was seen for hours, till toward evening the coyote wolves came out and we could see them joining along with their long gallop, often in the San Fernando Valley, now no "desert" but busy, industrious agricultural center."

After relating how his party stopped for the night at the historic San Fernando Mission, Bishop Kip continues: "It was 7 o'clock before we left the Mission, and, after proceeding a few miles, reached the San Fernando Pass (Fremont Pass) where the road had been cut through a deep defile in the mountains. Here we had to get out on foot, and the scenery was the wildest I have seen since I crossed the Alps. How our heavy wagon got over was a marvel to us."

It is indeed impossible that any place could have such a past and not have retained a faint aura of romance and adventure. Yet thousands of men and women daily dash down its narrow entrance, going both north and south, in search of something in the distance.



Historical Collection, Security-First National Bank

FREMONT PASS IN SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

... sturdy men trudged to turn Californians into Americans

The other four per cent continue to points north and west. To the tourist association's headquarters at Sacramento some suggestions that more than four per cent of the tourists should be diverted northward and centralward. Thus the bureau was established to inform newcomers of the beauties of all parts of the State so that their trip may be complete, varied.

Santa Ynez Road

Unavailable to all parts of Santa Barbara and Ventura counties will be a new forty-four mile scenic highway soon to be constructed. Beginning at San Marcos Pass, Santa Barbara County, it will pass over the mountains of the Santa Ynez range to Lyons Springs in Matilija Canyon, Ventura County. Much interest has the proposed plan aroused since it will be Santa Barbara directly with the proposed Maricopa Highway, a c/o s the mountains through Ventura County. Also it will give a scenic highway to the communities that is unrivaled even by the famous "Rim of the World" drive in the San Bernardino Mountains.

Announcement was made last week by Forest Supervisor S. A. Nash Boulden that the road would take the route from San Marcos Pass to Ventura County rather than the route formerly planned. Under the original plan the highway would have come to a halt at Rincon Creek, Carpinteria. He has taken up the matter, said Boulden, with district forest officials in San Francisco; assurance that a crew of government engineers will be assigned to the survey work has been received from them. In constructing that part of the highway which will be within Santa Barbara County, Supervisor Sam Stanwood would lead County aid.

White Lines

Thirty thousand dollars worth of lacquer will be splashed along 1400 miles of State highways this month, announced the State Division of Highways Director A. R. Herron, last week.

A total of 11,666 gallons of paint is required to paint a traffic line stripe one mile long, declared Herron.

Music

Bowl Listeners

Cool, enveloping blackness, a twinkling canopy overhead, form the setting for the beautiful symphony orchestra programs every summer in the Hollywood Bowl. As the soft strains rise into the air, the audience gets an occasional glimpse of a flaming cross on the neighboring peak. In reality it is a "prop" of the Pilgrimage Play, being shown in the next canyon to

Education

Indians

Nature no longer provides life's necessities for the Indian children. It is now an age of complicated machinery, complex business; these must be the first Americans to learn to understand if they are to survive. Such was the verdict of Sherman Indian Institute officials last week when they decided to start a new educational policy, to make more self-reliant the 1200 students under their supervision at Riverside.

Up to this year, the young men, and women have been offered highly academic, cultural courses. But the Indian band, stated Superintendent Frank Comser, is not adapted to sciences and academic studies. More quickly does it master the industrial arts.

With this in mind courses will be started in building trades, printing, auto mechanism, harness work, drafting for the boys. Girls will be trained in home-making, domestic science, sewing, other allied home arts. Other studies will be retained, although not in the ratio of past years.

Eventually, stated Comser, Sherman will become an industrial school with training almost exclusively vocational. Students below the fifth grade will be sent to other schools, their places taken by older boys and girls.

Oriental Tour

For three months has a party of Los Angeles students, teachers, been studying social and industrial conditions in China, Japan, Korea. As guest members of the famous Upton Close Oriental Exposition have they interviewed prominent officials, visited native homes and institutions. To resume their fall school work the group of twenty returned to Southern California early last week.

Guests of many Chinese, Japanese celebrities were members of the party. In China they were banqueted by Mukden's Dictator Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang entertained by the Commissioner of Education of Peiping, addressed by Commissioner of Railroads, Dr. Sun Fo, received by Minister of Education Dr. Chiang Mon Lin. Also for two days they were guests of the National Exposition at Hangchow.

Elementary

Students of Woodrow Wilson High School, Long Beach, may become trained in the elementary problems of flying if they wish. Progressing on new lines, this Long Beach school offers classes in aero-mechanics and rigging, aero-dynamics and aeronautics, all elementary.

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not be asked for at the first meeting. Many club members like to pay their dues for the year at this first meeting, and as the club exchequer is naturally always a bit low at the beginning of the year, the luncheon this year will be 50 cents, instead of 35 cents as formerly. The delicious luncheon will be served by a committee headed by Mrs. Neelands and Mrs. Briney. Reservations must be made with Mrs. Gilbert not later than six o'clock Monday, September 30th.

in the retail district of Torrance during the past year. Practically every merchant in Torrance is carrying larger stocks than ever before. Styles and modes are being carefully studied and selected. With the increase in patronage has come improved store services, and now that a city-wide retail organization has been perfected, co-operative activities will be undertaken that will be beneficial to customers as well as to the merchants themselves, stated Mr. Horgan. "Already Torrance is recognized as the principal trading center for

of Torrance as a home district, and the merchants of Torrance are getting organized to meet the expanding business of this greater Torrance of tomorrow. We, who are here, scarcely realize the improvements that have already taken place in the variety of stocks in Torrance retail stores, but the enlarged assortments of merchandise now offered by Torrance merchants is appreciated more and more of the nearby communities, which are coming to Torrance in increasing numbers to make their purchases."

most important of all industries this, while industry is sometimes visible, a great deal of waste results from conditions that are beyond the control of the individual. These wastes can only be eliminated by co-ordinated action through a central disinterested body. And third comes the consideration of the money necessary to finance the home, both land and building. Especially in homes which are to be sold in real estate that the financial terms be such that almost any man of good reputation and steady income is able to meet them. The financial conditions in Southern California are more stringent in regard to terms available than in eastern cities. Length of time given to pay off installment loans is less and interest rates are higher. This condition is a hang over from pioneer days in this region when conditions were uncertain. But now we are past those days and have entered a period of firm

(Continued on Page 2)

EMPLOYEES OPENED

0,000 Building Ised in 4-Day Cereast Week

and dedication of the new home of the Pacific Employees' club, just at 627 South Los Angeles, was held last week today to Saturday. A deftly the occasion inaugural addresses, are shows, dancing and entertainment were for each of the four evenings. Employees, representative departments, and h of the four evenings an overflow attendance. an expenditure in ex-000 and distinctive beie provisions made for athletic and educational facilities for Pacific employees and their families club ranks in reed facilities with the social clubs of southern For a nominal monthly fee employees and their ivers are privileged to sub's features and ap-5000 workers of the members. at various features of but the disposal of "Pac workers and their a motion picture the hall, class rooms, lunch room, billiard par- music room and other and only in first class

Water

By Grover C. Whyte

The campaign for a municipally owned water system in Torrance made substantial headway this week. City Engineer Frank Leonard acting under instructions from the City Council has been busy all week spotting locations for a reservoir and figuring estimates of pipe requirements, and other details necessary to submit a proposition to the voters for a municipal water system. Investigations of the best water sources are also being made by the city engineer and Mayor Dannis.

It certainly looks like Torrance means business and is seriously taking up the problem of better and cheaper water. In the mean time, citizens having the best interests of Torrance at heart are continually offering to help in any way they can.

There isn't much that can be done until the city engineer finishes his report and the council submits the proposition to the voters, but the Torrance Herald in co-operation with the Chamber of Commerce and the City Council intend to keep hammering on this vital problem until the matter is satisfactorily settled for all time by a city-owned and city-operated water system.

The Torrance Herald wishes to again thank the hundreds of good people who have offered their services to keep hammering on this newspaper for taking up the fight. The battle is on and we are a united people fighting for the common good. Nothing can stop us now!

Values and Attendance New Astounding Gain Since '19 Spend \$53,000 Over Tax Levy

HERBERT S. WOOD

omonal growth of Torridly shown by a com-figures taken from the part of the board of edu- In comparing the this year just completed or the year ending June schools both in valua- while Torrance schools last year cost \$335,707.53 both figures including money spent for new buildings, equipment, etc., as well as for cost of instruction, supplies, repairs and maintenance.

An interesting comparison may be made between the money raised in Torrance by the school tax and school expenditures. On an assessed valuation of 18 million dollars a tax rate of \$1.57 raised last year about \$282,690 while for the operation of the schools the board of education spent in Torrance \$208,393 to which should be added the expenditure of \$121,304 for new equipment, improvements, new buildings, etc., which was raised largely by tax levy. This does not include money from state funds allocated on average daily attendance basis without regard to school district jurisdiction. This makes the total of over \$385,000 mentioned above or about \$53,000 more than was raised by taxes. It is true that in some years during the past there was less money spent in Torrance on schools than was raised here, still a balance of \$52,000 in our favor for this year is a very satisfactory condition.

The schools of Torrance are now better able to care for the educational problems in the community than at any time since they were organized. Many schools in the system are crowded, many using tents and bungalows while Torrance is enjoying ample facilities with the most modern type of buildings and equipment.

The tables below give comparisons over the ten year period:

VALUATION, JUNE 30, 1919				
	Land	Buildings	Equipment	Total
High School	\$ 636.06	\$2,509.37	\$3,145.41	\$6,290.84
Elementary	5,476	38,685.42	3,622.58	47,784.06
TOTALS	\$5,476	\$39,321.48	\$6,777.99	\$51,575.53

EXPENDITURES YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1919				
	Sal. & Sup. Repairs Tot. Exp. Cap. Outys.	Total		
Elementary	\$7,691.90	\$93,108	\$8,622.98	\$1,170.60
High	5,857.47	145,377	5,522.88	2,910.89
Evening	678.00	28.00	607.00	607.00
TOTALS	\$13,627.37	\$112,445	\$14,752.84	\$2,381.55

VALUATION, JUNE 30, 1929				
	Land	Buildings	Equipment	Total
Fern Street School	\$13,810.00	\$ 3,359.24	\$ 2,330.38	\$ 19,499.62
Torrance Elementary	33,814.94	294,534.95	24,808.64	263,158.53
Waltera School	6,426.61	27,395.98	3,897.39	37,709.98
Torrance High School	70,367.59	433,210.46	77,088.19	580,672.24
TOTALS	\$124,219.14	\$670,496.63	\$108,124.60	\$902,840.37

EXPENDITURES YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1929				
	Sal. & Sup. Repairs Tot. Exp. Cap. Outys.	Total		
Fern Street and Tor. Ele.	\$72,846.59	\$10,782.30	\$8,029.89	\$22,553.94
Waltera School	10,142.92	1,611.74	11,654.66	5,631.06
Torrance High	86,173.24	14,854.54	101,127.78	93,319.25
Torrance Eve. H.	7,616.79	1,365.50	5,981.29	5,981.29
TOTALS	\$176,779.54	\$28,616.08	\$25,696.62	\$121,304.23

HOUSING DEPT. WILL TACKLE BIG PROBLEM

Chamber of Commerce Employs E. Standish Palmer to Head Housing Bureau

Why do more people not live in Torrance? This is the question Chamber of Commerce directors have been endeavoring to answer for several years. And to arrive at the solution of this stubborn block to civic development, the Chamber of Commerce directors decided this week to establish a department of housing under the direction of E. Standish Palmer. "The department of housing will be a disinterested agency of service which will co-ordinate and co-operate with all other interests in the city for the common good and progress of the community. A more detailed explanation of the housing bureau's work is given in an article written by Mr. Palmer and published on this page, and everyone is urged to read this comprehensive analysis of the situation," said Harry H. Dolley, president of the Chamber of Commerce.

E. Standish Palmer comes to Torrance very highly recommended. He has given extensive study and has had a great deal of practical experience in the work he is to do for Torrance.

Mr. Palmer is the son of Prof.



Photo by LaPlante
E. STANDISH PALMER
Manager Department of Housing Torrance Chamber of Commerce

Albert deForest Palmer, head of the physics and scientific research department of Brown University at Providence, R. I., and is himself where he specialized in scientific and engineering studies.

Upon leaving college, Mr. Palmer was associated with the city housing corporation of New York City, which organization built the Sunnyside project of model low cost homes in Long Island City, immediately adjacent to the large industrial district of the New York area. In this Sunnyside project, two and a half million dollars were expended in homes and Mr. Palmer was given an opportunity of studying costs and designs.

Later, Mr. Palmer was associated with Clarence Stein and Henry Wright of New York City, nationally known architects and city planners, in work on the United States government housing board. Mr. Palmer also studied city costs and administration for the Regional Planning Committee of America.

Mr. Palmer later helped in working out plans for the new model city of Radburn, N. J., now under construction, where a complete city embracing industries, business buildings and homes is being built from raw land.

Upon coming to California, Mr. Palmer was manager of the research and property facts department of W. Ross Campbell, business and industrial realtor of Los Angeles. He left this position to accept an opening with the Palos Verdes Estates as manager of the housing bureau.

In his work with Palos Verdes Estates Mr. Palmer was attracted by the opportunity for development in Torrance and presented his plan to the directors of the Chamber of Commerce. As a result the department of housing was organized. More detailed activities of this housing bureau will be given in subsequent editions of the Torrance Herald.