A Newspaper for All the People All the Time

The Torrance Herald

Torrance Population 8200

FIFTEENTH YEAR—No. 44 TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, OCT. 31, 1929 5c per Copy

U. S. STEEL COMPANY BUYS COLUMBIA

WATER REPORT APPLAUDED IN CROWDED HALL

Comments Reserved for Next Tuesday Meeting, Says Mayor—Study of Report Urged

The Council Chamber was packed to capacity Tuesday evening when citizens turned out to hear City Engineer Frank Leonard read his report of the proposed new municipal water system, a full text of which is printed on this page.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dennis who made a few remarks, explaining that this was a special meeting called for the sole purpose of hearing the report.

"We want you all to study this report carefully," said the mayor, "and at next Tuesday's meeting of the Council, we shall be pleased to hear any criticisms that the people of Torrance have to make."

Earl Conners, who was the third member of the investigating committee, was then introduced. He explained that the members of the committee had given a great deal of time driving about the county studying other water systems, but that the major credit for the report belonged to the city engineer, who had worked late at night for the past weeks to compile the data.

Read!

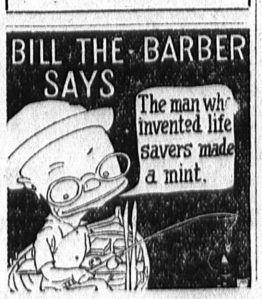
On this page is printed the report of City Engineer Frank Leonard and the joint City Council and Chamber of Commerce committee on the water situation and the suggested solution of it.

The report is full of valuable data of vital interest to the development of Torrance. We hope everyone will read. Many heard it given at the Tuesday meeting of the city council. Many others did not. All should give it careful study. We have set the most important parts in black face type, but every word is important. Read it all. It will only take a few minutes. City Engineer Leonard certainly is entitled to a great deal of praise for this comprehensive and concise report.

Have A Seat On Torrance

Torrance is becoming known as a place for the manufacturing of church pews. The Torrance Sash and Door has recently shipped pews to Lancaster for the Episcopal church there. The pews for the Christ Episcopal church, Torrance, and the pews for the Baptist church, Keystone, were also made by them.

Doris Wood, Sophomore.



Report of Committee On Water Investigation To The Honorable City Council and Citizens of Torrance

TO THE HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF TORRANCE:

This committee was asked to make a study of water conditions affecting Torrance, and to report on whether in its judgment a publicly owned water system is justified, and if justified what plans should be followed.

We have endeavored to secure as much information as possible, bearing upon this subject, and have been guided to a considerable extent by the experiences of others; each community must, however, solve it's own problems more or less independent of what would be "best practice" in some other locality.

You will appreciate that many questions are involved in a study of this character, however, in all cases the following basic conditions must be carefully considered.

1. Quantity and permanency of water available.
2. Quality of water.
3. Importance of preserving a high standard of purity.
4. General outline of plan if new system is desired.
5. Initial cost and proposed method of financing.
6. Cost of operation and maintenance.
7. Revenues.

This report will deal directly with conditions to be met and suggests methods to be followed should this city decide to install an entirely new Water System. Whether or not a new system is installed is not a question upon which this committee is expected to make recommendations, however, attention will be called to some of the reasons for dissatisfaction with present conditions; what causes them, and the way to prevent a like condition in the future.

Quantity and Permanency of Probable Supply

The question as to quantity and permanency of all underground water supplies is problematical as these supplies depend upon replacements from sources which are themselves affected by periods of sub-normal or excessive rainfall.

Your committee recognizes that the water level is lowering throughout this entire coastal area, and that there will come a time when water from other than underground sources will have to be provided. **However, it is our opinion based on available records, as to lowering of water level in this area, that there is no danger of the supply being exhausted for many years.**

Much water has been developed in this immediate section; wells have been supplying vast amounts for many years, the lowering of the water level being slight.

Reliable data concerning wells located at widely separated points within, or very close to the boundaries of this city, has been secured and is presented in the following tabulation:

WATER WELL DATA

Location of Well	Size of Casing	Depth of Well	Depth of Water Bearing Gravel or Sand	Water Level Below Surface of Ground	Draw Down When Pumping In Feet	Gals. per minute	Motor
Columbia Steel No. 1	14"	613'	293'-598'			745	
Columbia Steel No. 2	14"	653'	122'-360'	72'	12"	630	60 H. P.
Quandt	18"	301'		70'	12"	600	Gas Motor
Quandt	14"	301'		70'	12"	800	Gas Motor
C. C. M. O. No. 1	12"	557'	241'-557'	103'	8"	270	30 H. P.
Dr. Ellenwood No. 1	16"	416'	305'-390'			900	40 H. P.
Dr. Ellenwood No. 2	12"	370'	282'-360'			630	30 H. P.
Dominguez No. 12	12"	467'	301'-428'	100'		1050	
Moneta No. 1	16"	520'		70'	24"	2500	
Moneta No. 2	16"	520'		70'	24"	2000	

These records show a production of about (14½) fourteen and one half million gallons a day from (10) ten wells.

The amount of water furnished at the present time to the City by the Water Company is around one and a quarter million gallons per day, or in quantity considerably less than the average yield from two of the above wells.

Lomita Well No. 13, a 3000 gallon a minute well is not included in the above calculation.

We can see no reason why the City of Torrance cannot drill its own wells and secure a water supply sufficient to cover all requirements of the city for many years, and we believe it only good business for Torrance to proceed with this object in view. However, your committee recommends that the city join with other Southern California municipalities to secure a portion of the water contemplated to be eventually drawn from the Colorado River, which supply will undoubtedly be required to provide for future industrial development in this section.

The water furnished the city by the Torrance Water, Light & Power Company is supplied by the Dominguez Water Company, delivered from wells located about (6) six miles east of the city, is conveyed through a 33 inch steel main to an open reservoir having a capacity to about a week's maximum demand.

This 33 inch main and the reservoir are owned by the Dominguez Water Company.

We desire to call attention to a serious situation possible to arise should a bad break occur in the 33 inch main, whereby water supply and fire protection would be cut off from the city, and recommend that this danger be eliminated by securing an independent auxiliary water supply for the city through its own wells.

Quality of Available Supply

Probably one of the most serious conditions possible to arise, and one which will to a very great extent retard the growth of any community, is for the public to become convinced that there is something wrong with the water supply indicated by the presence of objectionable odor or taste in the water.

Causes of Odor and Taste in Water

The odor noticeable in water as it is drawn from the wells is usually due to the presence of offensive gases in solution, however, water may be entirely free from objectionable odor when it is pumped from the ground and develops odor later.

Objectionable taste in water is often due to the development of some form of vegetable organism present in the water before coming from the ground. In case the water does not properly circulate through the distribution pipelines becoming stagnant, this vegetable organism, usually some form of algae, grows in the pipes and odor and taste develop, especially in cases where the algae is treated by means of chlorine after the plant develops. As a result of this method of treatment we have offensive odor, taste and color, due to the decomposition of algae through excessive chlorine or other reactions. Water delivered in this condition is not especially harmful, but certainly is not satisfactory for domestic use.

This algae or other micro-organism causing offensive and objectionable properties in the water should not be allowed to form in the pipe lines and can be prevented from developing by proper treatment before the water is delivered into the distribution main; the method of treatment required will depend of course on what gases are present and whether certain mineral elements and types of algae growth exist in the water.

The objectionable taste and odor present in the water delivered to Torrance, is not a new condition with the present season, but is one that is gradually getting worse each succeeding year, and we believe is due to decomposition of algae or similar growth which has formed and is growing within the pipe lines of the distribution system within the city; this growth is being partly destroyed by chlorine treatment and is being carried on as the water circulates in the pipes affecting all the water used to a more or less degree.

The water at the intake of the 33 inch line at Truck boulevard is now being treated by the Dominguez Water Company before entering the main; about two parts of chlorine gas per million is being used according to the report of County Health Officer, Mr. Herbert A. Jewett; undoubtedly some free chlorine gas is present in the water after leaving the treating basin and is causing disintegrating of the algae growth in the 33 inch main, some of which naturally reaches the water supply of Torrance.

The County Board of Health has, and is making a very exhaustive study of the present Torrance water supply, examinations are being made frequently by Mr. Jewett and Mr. Isaacs, Health Officer for this district. Their reports show water not unhealthful, but offensive.

It is our opinion that if the water is properly treated, this growth will not form in the pipes, and that in order to prevent this objectionable condition arising the water must be treated at the plant before being discharged into the distribution mains. We believe that having once formed in the pipes the amount of chlorine required to kill this growth would be so excessive as would preclude the advisability of resorting to this expedient, and that it would be very difficult, if not impossible to entirely remove the cause of trouble, even if an attempt was made to clear the pipe lines. Algae, being a seed growth, is hard to destroy.

Importance of Preserving a High Standard of Purity

That your committee might ascertain the character of water furnished from the wells in this area, and to assist in deciding what methods of treatment are required, samples of water from various wells have been analyzed to determine the properties which might affect industrial conditions, further with reference to health and also to ascertain what form of organic and vegetable life as well as objectionable gases are present in these waters. These analyses were made by Smith-Emery & Company, Testing Laboratories of Los Angeles, and are made a part of this report.

A summary of important points bearing on these analyses is herewith presented together with suggested treatment under conditions present at the different wells.

WELL	Industrial: Sulfretted Hydrogen (H2S) Grains per Gallon	Industrial: Carbon Dioxide (CO2) Half Bound Grains per Gallon	Industrial: Total Hardness Grains per Gallon	Bacteriological: Colonies, per CC on Nutrient Agar 24 Hrs. at 37° C	Bacteriological: B-Coli	Biological: Organisms Per Million Gallons: Cyanophycaea	Biological: Chlorophycaea	Biological: Fungi
Columbia No. 1	Nil	5.92	7.41	40	0.00	.....	Innum	1400
Columbia No. 2	0.11	5.66	7.28	20	0.00	.....	31,000	3300
Dominguez No. 12	Nil	6.31	8.77	240	0.00	.....	.....	Innum
Ellinwood No. 1	Nil	6.31	6.23	30	0.00	.....	.....	Innum
C. C. M. O. No. 1	Nil	7.34	8.32	25	0.00	.....	30,000	2100
Moneta No. 1	0.12	5.53	8.01	5	0.00	.....	Innum	300
Moneta No. 2	Nil	5.53	7.05	30	0.00	1600	.....	700
Quandt No. 2	Nil	6.31	4.35	75	0.00	.....	.....	3300
Allowable	Indef.	Indef.	12.	100	0.00	OK	2000	OK

TREATMENT—AERATION—.1 to 1.0 P. P. M. Copper Sulphate, .3 to 2.0 P. P. M. Chlorine.

A very low bacterial count is shown in all cases.

Entire absence of B-coli, the particular form of bacteria dangerous to health.

Water is clear in all samples taken.

The water from none of the wells is classified as "hard"; in no wells showing a high percentage of lime, magnesium or soda, indicating that water is excellent for industrial use.

Carbon dioxide is present in all water examined, however, not in sufficient quantity to require special treatment; a small percentage of sulphuretted hydrogen gas is present in two wells. Water from wells showing presence of these gases should be aerated.

Three wells show presence of either cyanophycae or chlorophycae, these or allied micro-organisms are what we are interested in, being probably the cause of our trouble. Chlorine, copper sulphate, or both are indicated as being the proper treatment for these waters, together with aeration.

The results of the above analyses do not definitely establish what may be found in the water of other wells drilled in this area, but do indicate what may be expected and are of great assistance in determining proper methods of treatment.

Further, to maintain a high standard of purity your committee calls attention to the importance of preventing any surface seepage from entering the wells by cementing the well casings past the point of danger. This provision for safety is not generaly taken and can easily be responsible for serious conditions in water wells.

Plans Suggested

Your city Engineer has prepared plans showing general layout of necessary equipment with distribution system covering the portion of the city to be served. These are submitted for your consideration.

In a general way the plan contemplates acquiring reservoir and well sites, drilling two or three wells, building a covered concrete lined reservoir with a capacity of six million gallons. The reservoir to be built in two compartments permitting draining and cleaning when necessary, provides for water treatment at the reservoir.

The analyses above referred to indicate that chlorination, aeration and copper sulphate treatment may be required, and provision is made for these methods of treatment.

Erection of a two hundred and fifty thousand gallon steel tank, one hundred and fifty feet in height to insure a reasonable reserve supply of water under pressure to tide over interruptions in pumping, to stabilize pressure, and to provide fire protection.

Pumps automatically and manually controlled at wells and reservoir; provides a distribution system comprising about (10) miles of pipe lines including house meters and service connections when ordered at time of installation of system.

Cost

Cost estimate of the proposed system is $410,000.00.

Publicly and Privately Owned Water Plants

Private corporations operate un-

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EDIT HERALD

PAUL WELSCH
President, Student Body

This week's issue of the Torrance Herald was written by the students of the Torrance High School Sholarship Society. They gathered the news, wrote the stories, and in every particular "put out the paper." The regular news writers of the Herald are elated with the result, and the management feels that the readers will enjoy the issue immensely.

There is a wealth of good live news and feature articles, well written. The issue is a credit to the Torrance high school as well as to the Herald and the newspaper staff congratulates the Scholarship Society for their splendid work.

Miss Beulah Cooper, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Cooper of Spurlin Court, acted as editor-in-chief. Miss Cooper is a senior and is vice president of the Scholarship Society. Earl Tavan, editor of the high school paper T. N. T., was associate editor of this issue. Others on the staff were Margaret Richhart, society editor; Edna Richhart, school notes; Paul Welsch, sports; Doris Wood, Margaret Macleod, Virginia Walker, Charles Faulkner, Stanley Creighton, Betty Danford, Joy Fossum, Bill Barnes, Margaret Floyd, Edith Riley, John Young, Marjorie Roelofs, Hazel Briney and Esther Terry.

A contest was held to determine which grade could write the most acceptable copy. May Haslam and Jean Smith kept the scores. The Seniors won by writing 8,361 words, the seventh grade second with 7,-[illegible] words, and the Juniors third, with 6,308 words.

"The high school owes special appreciation to many for their faithful work in making this number of the Torrance Herald a success," said Paul Welsch, president of the Associated Student Bodies, "and we, wish to express our particular gratitude to Miss Mills who acted as our faculty advisor. She deserves a great deal of credit."

The members of the Scholarship Society were guests of the Torrance Herald this afternoon and saw the result of their week's work being run off the newspaper press.

BEULAH COOPER
Editor-in-Chief

EARL TAVAN
Editor T. N. T.

THRONGS PACK D. & M. PLANT AT OPENING

Huge Bouquets of Flowers Transform Shop to Bower of Beauty

By DORIS WOOD

Over two thousand well-wishing friends of the D. & M. Machine Works crowded through the new plant on Artisano avenue Saturday at the formal opening of the latest addition to the modern industrial city.

All day long streams of people gazed at the human-like automatic machines as they made pistons and rods for shipment all over the globe.

The crowd reached its height in the evening, when three traffic policemen were required to handle the rush of people wishing to get a glimpse of the new plant and to congratulate the owners and staff.

An elaborate entertainment program was arranged by Earl Conners who also had charge of the refreshments. Among those on the program were Benjamin Wolfe, violin artist; Dean Hempft, accompanist; Eddie Clark, a former Ziegfeld Follies singing comedian; Dody Coyle, dancer; Nat Franco, the man with a hundred faces; and Bessie Hijnie, acrobatic dancer. Carlyle Tilroe was the announcer over the radio broadcast.

Mayor John Dennis welcomed the new industry to Torrance; Carl Hyde spoke briefly. Other speakers were Ed C. Nelson, J. W. McQuaid, who explained the manufacture of pistons. Earl Conners, acting as master of ceremonies introduced the several speakers as well as Frank Dalton, who in turn introduced his secretary, Miss Pearl Glasow, and several of the D. & M. salesmen. Tom Bowker, a Legionnaire of Torrance, pleased the audience with two musical numbers.

The D. & M. Machine Works plant established a new record in speedy construction. It was built by P. O. Guy, general contractor and a score of local sub-contractors in exactly 23 days.

Over forty huge bouquets were received from admiring friends of the D. & M. Machine Works and the contractors transformed the machine shop and offices into a bower of beauty. Telegrams were received from all over the country.

"We find it difficult to express our appreciation for the wonderful

(Continued on Next Page)

LARGE AREA NORTH SEEKS ANNEXATION

Territory Between Hawthorne, Vermont and Riverside-Redondo Boulevard Would Join Torrance

Plans are under way to annex 4½ square miles of territory north of Torrance to the city. It was disclosed at the Tuesday meeting of the City Council when a notice of intention to circulate petitions was presented to the Council.

The territory seeking annexation to Torrance is bounded on the south by Dominguez street, on the north by Riverside-Redondo boulevard, and extends from Hawthorne avenue to Western avenue. One half mile strip adjacent to the Los Angeles Shoestring Strip extends as far as Vermont avenue. The territory has an area of 4½ square miles and an assessed valuation of approximately $2,600,000. It is known as the McDonald Tract and includes the properties of the Moneta Water Company.

The notice of intention to circulate petitions was signed by Mabel E. Brooks, Jacob Roth, Mrs. Jacob Roth, Fred Timmerman, Edward R. Stephenson, Francis M. Clark and Mrs. Myrrell Roth.

STEEL CORP. SOLD

SPECIAL TO TORRANCE HERALD

NEW YORK, Oct. 31—Directors of the United States Steel Corporation exercised their option to purchase the business of the Columbia Steel Corporation today.

The cost is approximately $46,630,000.00 payable Feb. 1st, 1930, entirely with the stock of the United States Steel Corporation.

The negotiations for the purchase of the California property has been proceeding for several months and the United States Steel only this week prolonged the option several days so that final details could be arranged.

The entry of U. S. Steel to the industrial city of Torrance where the So. Calif. Columbia plant is located is also a most important development.