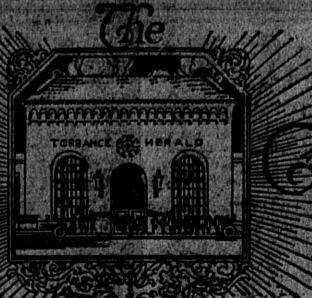


A Newspaper for All the People All the Time

Torrance Herald and LOMITA NEWS



TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1930

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EXPANSION OF STEEL MILLS IS CONFIRMED

President Farrell of U. S. Steel Admits Plans For Developing Coast Plants

UNION TOOL TO BE BUSY Contemplating Orders For Oil Well Equipment Expected To Call For Overtime Work

The first definite commitment from officials of the United States Steel Corporation that expansions are contemplated for the former Columbia Steel plants at Torrance and Pittsburg, California, came from San Francisco this week, when James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation announced that there will be a "rounding out" of the Pacific Coast plants.

"To what extent this expansion will be I am not prepared to say," Farrell said, "but there will be a general rounding out of the newly acquired plants."

Predictions have been repeatedly made by those close to the steel situation on the coast that Torrance will secure a tube mill, as well as considerable expansion in its sheet mill. When this takes place, it will mean doubling and possibly trebling the present force at the Torrance steel plant.

Other Industries The outlook for increased employment in other industries in Torrance was brighter this week, when it was reported that the Union Tool plant of the National Supply Company expected to be working overtime soon to fill contemplated orders for oil field equipment.

PORTLAND CO. BUYS HELBUSH CEMENT SITE

Southwest Portland Cement Company Takes Over 164 Acres in South Torrance For Cement Plant

The properties of the H. H. Helbush Company, comprising 164 acres in South Torrance, have been purchased by the Southwest Portland Cement Company, according to an announcement made by E. H. Powell, president of the latter company.

The Helbush interests acquired the land over a year ago for the erection of a million dollar cement plant, but were delayed in its construction by technicalities in the legal transfer and annexation of various pieces of acreage to the City of Torrance.

Mr. Powell states that the Southwest Portland Cement Company have been testing the lime deposits in the property for the past six months and have found them satisfactory. When asked regarding the construction of a cement plant by his company, Mr. Powell stated that plans were not yet ready to be announced.

Advertisement for Bill Barber, a barber, with a cartoon illustration of a man's face.

Old Car "Passes On" In Blaze of Glory

"Studie" Gets All "Burned Up" with Envy As Shiny New Buick Takes Over Honors

By GENE DARNELL

Didja all hear about the big fire Friday morning? It's kind of a sad story in a way. The old Studebaker that had served so long and so well as the police department's sturdy steed was to be cast away. A brand new Buick, resplendent in its beauty, waited at Fishery's. After the parting tears had been shed at the police station, Chief G. M. Calder got into the Studie and drove it away. The last ride for the old Studie as official police car!

Funny how friendly everyone was this morning. Must be the weather, thought Chief Calder as he rode along. Everybody waving at him all up and down the street. Chief waved back. More people waved to him. Chief waved back. As he got near the middle of the block on Marcelina between Sartori and Cravens the waves became more frantic. People rushed out into the street waving, and pointing to the hood of the car.

Chief looked. Fire! Smoke and flames were pouring out from under the hood. He stopped quickly, and someone called the fire department.

At Gourdiere was the hero of the day. He saw the blaze, and without even stopping to don a fireman's hat, he dashed into the street with a fire extinguisher and put out the blaze. The siren was blowing, and upon the anoning red steed of the fire department arrived on the scene, only to turn around and go right back to the stall.

It was a funny-looking sight to see the old car being towed into the garage to trade for a new one. Kinda looked like something rotten in Denmark, but anyhow Chief got the new Buick and drove it back to the police station, where it reposes in the shade so's not to ruin the paint.

Yes, the car was insured. The damage? Not so terrible much, just a few wires burned out from being shorted, and the paint ruined on the hood.

Western City and Moneta Gardens Move To Annex To Hawthorne or Redondo. Would Thwart Parkway

Will Western City and Moneta Garden Acres annex to Hawthorne or Redondo, or remain "AS IS"? This is the question that promises a merry political battle as Jay Fraser, leader of the Southwest Protective Association, is busy circulating petitions, with the reported intention of blocking the Hollywood-Palos Verdes Parkway project. Since the County Board of Supervisors have not acted on the proposed incorporation of Alondra Park City, the hurried action to get under the protecting wing of some incorporated city is believed to be the motive back of the annexation scramble. Developments to date are:

1. Notice of intention to circulate petitions for annexation to Hawthorne was filed with the city clerk Saturday and acted upon by the Hawthorne City Council Monday evening.

2. A similar notice covering the same territory was filed with the city clerk of Redondo Beach for annexation to that city at 1:42 a.m. Monday morning. The fact that the ardent petitioners got the Redondo city clerk out of bed is looked upon as an attempt to "beat the Hawthorne annexationists in the race." However, the Hawthorne annexation is believed to have precedence as it was filed Saturday.

3. Another petition of "notice of intention to circulate" was filed with the Hawthorne City Clerk Saturday morning and acted upon Monday evening by the Hawthorne City Council for the annexation of that portion of Lawndale west of Hawthorne avenue.

Boundaries The boundary lines given in the Hawthorne and Redondo annexation moves are given as: Beginning with the East line of Hawthorne avenue, the Pacific Electric tracks is the north boundary, thence east to Western avenue, south on Western to Rosecrans to Normandy, south on Normandy to Riverside-Redondo boulevard, and following this boulevard west and south to Hawthorne boulevard, and thence north to the Hawthorne city limits.

Projects active in the annexation projects include Ben Cook of Lawndale, John Capillis of Hawthorne, Ben J. Brown of Hawthorne, and Jay Fraser, president of the Southwest Protective Association.

It is contended by those interested in the annexation to Hawthorne that it is the only hope of the Hawthorne City and Moneta Garden Acres to thwart the Hollywood-Palos Verdes Parkway project, and it is hoped that by this move, it will re-route the parkway from Cypress avenue to Arlington, Western or possibly as far as Normandie avenue.

Only One Drug Store To Open On Sundays

Only one drug store in Torrance will be open on Sundays hereafter, it was agreed this week. The three drug stores will take turns being open. Torrance Pharmacy being open, Torrance Dolley Drug Store, June 1, and Becon Drug Store, June 15; rotating thereafter in the same order. The Sunday closing also affects the soda fountains in the three drug stores.

Rights will be placed on the stores that are closed on open. EXCHANGE PULPITS KEYSTONE—Rev. H. B. Tramschel, pastor of the Keystone Baptist church will occupy the pulpit at the Fallbrook Baptist church in Fallbrook on Sunday. The Key Stone pulpit will be filled by Rev. Fockett of Los Angeles.

FOUR PEOPLE HURT AS CAR STRIKES POLE

Mrs. Faye Clarke Taken To Hospital With Both Arms and Leg Broken.

Traffic Accidents Over the Week-End Result in Injury To Seven.

Two women were badly injured, and a man and woman slightly injured Sunday at 12:50 when a Ford sedan driven by Mrs. Faye Clarke, 1526 Pontius street, Sawtelle, careened into an Edison Company pole at Hawthorn boulevard and Emerald street. It is asserted that Mrs. Clarke lost control of the car when the right rear tire blew out and the car careened sidwinding, crashing into the pole and a gas meter box by the side of the road. The car struck the pole midway between the radiator and the windshield, and the impact broke the pole in two and overturned the car.

Mrs. Clarke was on her way to Torrance to visit her daughter, Mrs. Ray Tomkins, when the accident occurred. She was taken to the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital in a Stone & Myers ambulance. There it was found that she had both arms broken, one fractured in two places, a broken leg, and multiple cuts all over her body.

Mrs. Sarah Overton, wife of a traffic officer in Barstow, received two fractures of the lower jaw. She was brought to the hospital and is resting there.

Mrs. Grace Paige of Sawtelle, another passenger in the car, escaped injury. Jack Clarke of Sawtelle was treated for cuts about the hand.

Child is Hurt Two-year-old Ada Lange received only a bruise on the mouth when cars driven by her mother, Mrs. R. B. Ludke, 2501 25th street, Lomita, and H. E. McCoy of the Castle apartments, collided on Narbonne avenue Friday afternoon at 3:15.

According to the statement made by McCoy to the police, he was turning around in the road and Mrs. Ludke attempted to pass him on the right.

Ada was treated at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital and then taken home.

Car Overturns Leon McBride, 530 S. Francisco street, Redondo Beach, received cuts on the right side of the head and over the left eye, when the car he was driving struck the dirt on the side of the road and the car turned over.

The wounds were dressed at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital.

Hits Telephone Pole Martha Berg, 1410 El Redondo boulevard, received a bad cut over the left eye and face cuts, when the car she was driving struck a telephone pole Thursday afternoon on 190th street east of Hawthorne boulevard.

Mrs. Berg, who was riding with her two children and her mother, was treated at the hospital.

CARL HYDE HONORED BY STATE ASSN.

Torrance Secretary Chosen President of Commercial Secretaries' Association.

Carl L. Hyde, executive secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, has been honored by the presidency of the Commercial Secretaries' Association of Southern California, which embraces practically all the cities and communities south of the Tehachap.

The secretaries association was in convention at Avalon, Santa Catalina Island, last Saturday. Other officers elected were: Earl Martin, Whittier, first vice president; Carl Booth, Hollywood, second vice president; Charles P. Bayer, field organization manager of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

The elevation of the Torrance secretary to the presidency of the Southern California association is hailed as a valuable asset in attracting attention to this city, and speaks well for the popularity of Secretary Hyde among the Chambers of Commerce throughout Southern California.

ANNEXATION

Do The McDonald Tract People, Voting On Annexation To Torrance June 2, Want The Facts, Or Will They Listen To Hearsay and Falsehoods?

An Editorial

Next Monday, June 2nd, qualified electors residing in the McDonald Tract will vote on the question of annexing that territory to the City of Torrance. For over a year this territory and that embracing the large unincorporated section surrounding it has been a subject of controversy by various forces suggesting several different projects for its ultimate destiny. As a consequence of the many ideas projected, a group of resident property owners in the McDonald Tract voluntarily approached the City of Torrance to ascertain the necessary steps to be taken for annexation to Torrance. The Chamber of Commerce was the agency that was approached and in response to the requests, made considerable study of the tax factors involved and prepared a table showing a complete statement of the various tax zones throughout the McDonald Tract, district together with a comparative analysis of how the McDonald Tract would be affected by the proposed Alondra Park City or the annexation of the district to Redondo Beach or Los Angeles in contrast to annexation to Torrance. The figures shown in the statement were all taken from the Taxpayer's Guide prepared by the County Auditor and clearly disclosed the fact that the McDonald Tract, if annexed to Torrance instead of any one of the other cities, would have an average of \$112 per hundred dollars of assessed valuation. A copy of this statement, which was rather a voluminous schedule, was furnished to each resident registered voter in McDonald Tract in which there are three different tax zones. The economies effected by the Torrance municipal tax rate is an outstanding attribute of this municipality.

Low Tax Rate The City of Torrance today enjoys the second lowest municipal tax in the entire County of Los Angeles. This factor is due very largely to the immense wealth represented by the great industrial institutions which have done so much to develop the entire surrounding territory in the Gardena Valley district. Comparable examples of this condition are shown in the Vernon and El Segundo areas where large payrolls have also been enjoyed. An interesting feature in the growth of Torrance has been the economy effected in its governmental administration. The city was incorporated in 1923 at which time its tax rate was \$1.25 per \$100 of assessed value. Today its tax rate is 49¢. If a record of which the City of Torrance is not only justly proud, but which is pointed to with distinction by authorities in the state who have frequently quoted Torrance as an example of well administered, efficient and economical government. The record is an open book and certainly needs no defense from self-styled critics who might attempt to distort the truth.

During the last four years very extensive territorial increases have come to Torrance through annexation of extensive properties. Mutual conditions and beneficial economies together with a far-reaching policy for the future of this area, are prompting factors making possible the splendid growth and increase in area which Torrance has enjoyed. Many conflicting, erroneous, and vilifying statements have been made by various forces largely outside of McDonald Tract, who seek to defeat the annexation to Torrance. It is believed that these opposed forces have not been of malicious intent but are rather the result of misinformation and lack of facts involved.

False Statements For instance, the statement has been made that Torrance has restrictive ordinances against oil drilling and the petroleum industry. It is true that a very small part of the original city did have certain deed restrictions, but these are positively no ordinance in the City of Torrance outside of that very limited area which in any way restricted or hinders the development of this area. The industry, in fact, has enjoyed the splendid growth and increase in area which Torrance has enjoyed. Many of the leading oil companies which have operated in the Torrance fields to the effect that their relations with this city have been of the most cordial co-operative type. Over 550 wells are located in the Torrance fields today and many of the local industries of a manufacturing nature are directly related to the oil industry.

Bonded Debt The statement has been made that McDonald Tract would have to absorb a part of the bonded indebtedness of Torrance. This is an absolute untruth, as no portion of the bonded indebtedness in Torrance is shared by any of the territory which has been annexed to it and the retirement of any incorporated city in the entire state and the retirement of outstanding bonds is being carried entirely by the original city district.

Parkway Project The so-called Hollywood-Palos Verdes Parkway project is a subject about which more misinformation has been stated than possibly any other subject which has interested the southwest district. The City of Torrance today stands in a position of withdrawal from the parkway project. It is true that the Chamber of Commerce and a committee of its representative citizens have met from time to time with various bodies interested in this project but each meeting insofar as the Torrance representatives are concerned has been with the view of economizing the project and bringing it to the point where it might be acceptable to all interests concerned, especially the small property owner. The aim of Torrance in its deliberations on this subject has been to secure a worthy improvement for the district at a cost not to exceed an ordinary major highway project feeling that the greatest beneficiaries of the parkway should pay the difference between the cost of the parkway and a major road, thus relieving the proposed assessment district from an excessive improvement cost burden. Regardless of what may be said to the contrary, this position in the present attitude of Torrance is the only practical friend which the district has in regard to this highly agitated question. The same attitude exists toward the Alondra Park assessment district. Many schemes have been represented to the people in this park assessment district proposing solutions to minimize the cost of this improvement. Practically every suggestion offered by these forces faith and intent is to try to make them effective. Here again, the City of Torrance is the only genuine friend which the people in the Alondra Park assessment district have. It was through the suggestion of one of the property owners and residents of the McDonald Tract that the City of Torrance has officially gone on record for a plan which is the only logical and possible way out of the assessment burden of that district. A copy of the official resolution which the City Council of Torrance has adopted follows:

"RESOLUTION NO. 462 "BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Torrance that it does hereby give its wholehearted approval of the intended attempt on the part of property owners in the Alondra Park assessment district to obtain a passage through the 1911 Legislature of the State of California, of an Amendment to the statute under which such assessment district has been created, which Amendment will allow the most distant lands which the City of Torrance has assumed the obligation of such assessment district and accept as a County project. (Continued on Page 7)

HOPES RUN HIGH AS DRILLING FOR DEEPER SANDS CONTINUES

Rio Grande Oil Company Takes Over Archer Well For Deep Test, Honolulu Oil Company Coming, Kern Drillers Take Over Other Well

Developments of the last few days have further confirmed the prediction made two weeks ago by the Torrance Herald and Lomita News that local oil fields are to enjoy another boom. Some of the most significant developments are:

- 1. Operations at the Archer Well No. 1 on the Watson property, Wilmington street east of Main street, Keystone, have been taken over by the Rio Grande Oil Company, who are reported to have purchased a substantial interest in the deep test well. Prior to halting drilling on this well at the 4700 foot level, a narrow strata of oil sand, about 13 feet thick, was encountered. The drill is now down about 5400 feet and it is planned to continue the test to between 6000 and 7000 feet. These in charge of the operations predict that a productive sand will be reached at about 6200 feet. The Rio Grande Oil Company is one of the most important and best financed companies on the coast and their association with the Archer well is interpreted as assurance that a thorough test of the lower sands will be made at this time.
- 2. United Kern Petroleum Co., Ltd., is pushing forward the deep test well on the A. E. Martos property on Acacia street near Pennsylvania avenue. The difficult job of straightening the hole and drilling through the cement and debris at the bottom of the old 3775 foot hole has been successfully accomplished, and yesterday the bit was pushing forward to the lower levels at a rapid rate.
- 3. The two Hugh Henry wells on Fir street at Pennsylvania avenue are slated for the next deep tests by the United Kern Petroleum Company. This company has also taken over the Julian Petroleum well across the street from the Hugh Henry wells, with a determination to reach the deep sands.
- 4. Hanelula Oil Company, a major company, are reported to have completed plans for entering the Torrance-Lomita field, with a determination to reach the deep sands.
- 5. Mystery surrounds the operations at the Superior Oil Company well No. 63, located on the East edge of the field. Recent checks of drill pipe in the tower, seem to indicate that the bit is down considerably further than the 5000 foot level, reported by Los Angeles newspapers.
- 6. W. T. Killingsworth and W. M. Killingsworth, brothers and Long Beach drilling contractors drilling the Kern well, report that they will re-drill their well to 6000 feet.

Legion Posts from Five Towns Join in Memorial Day Programs

American Legion posts from Torrance, Redondo, Gardena, Compton and El Segundo will join hands tomorrow to pay honor to the War heroes, living and dead, in one of the most elaborate Memorial Day programs ever attempted in this section of the county, according to H. M. Bailey, commander of Bert S. Crossland Post, Torrance.

At 10 a.m. a patriotic parade will form at the El Segundo school in Redondo and march to the Metropolitan theatre in Gardena, Beach, where the following program will be given:

Song, "America," entire assembly, R.U.H.S. instrumental quartet, accompanist; American Legion ritual, cheer; Moore and Ray; bugle call; Our Lincoln; remarks, J. J. Seiff, commander local G. A. R.; remarks, J. H. McGoon, commander of local Spanish war veterans; vocal solo, "There Is No Death," Alex. Cherrier; reading, (a) "In Flanders Fields," Victoria Lewontick; (b) "America's Answer," Craig Edwards; violin solo, "Going Home," Martha Constad, Patricia Constad, accompanist; Memorial day address, Judge Raymond I. Turney; song, "Star-Spangled Banner," Charles E. Griffin, D.D.; taps, Archie McDougal, post bugler.

Following the morning services at the theatre, lunch will be served at Redondo for all those who wish to participate. Luncheon tickets will be \$1.10 each.

At Gardena Services will be held in the afternoon at Roosevelt Memorial Park. The parade will form at the Normandie and 18th street entrance on the north at 1:30 p.m. and will march through the park to the pipe organ where the program will be held from 2 to 4 o'clock. The organizations will carry massed colors and music will be furnished by the drum, bugle and life corps of the Gardena American Legion post. Legionnaires from Torrance, Gardena, Compton and Redondo Beach posts will march in the parade.

Mr. Lee B. Hawkins accompanied by Harold Dick at the pipe organ, will sing "Christ in Flanders" by Ward Stephens and there will be appropriate music by the drum, bugle and life corps of the American Legion post. Commanders of the Los Angeles county posts are: Lawrence Klinker, Huntington Park, 19th district commander; Chas. E. Van Der Ost, Hawthorne, district vice commander; Roy Donnell, commander Redondo Beach post; H. Miller Bailey, commander Compton post, and Ed. Lewis, commander Redondo Beach post.

During the services Boy Scouts will place out flowers on the graves. Graves of ex-service men will be decorated with a flag and a white cross. A firing squad from Redondo Beach will close the ceremonies.

Microphones will be used in carrying the program to the audience and there will be a special seating arrangement to take care of those who attend.

Merchants Victims of Spurious Checks

Police are looking for a man who calls himself A. Stanton, and who last week issued two worthless checks to Torrance merchants. Both checks were made for the amount of \$7.50, one was given to the J. C. Panny Company, and the other to Sam Levy.

The checks were made out to cash and signed by the Edward Miller, who gave his address as 1414 Madrid. In countersigning, Stanton gave his address as 917 Coia avenue. Both addresses are of vacant houses.

Police have obtained a complete description of the man calling himself Stanton.

Another check turned over to police for investigation was made out to E. Mrs. Paul Reeves and signed by the name "Paul Reeves." The address given was 1212 Acacia, a house that until recently was unoccupied.

Stores Close on Two Charges

L. F. Hagerman was arrested near Long Beach-Redondo boulevard and Madison street in Waterloo last week and charged with disturbing the peace and drunkenness.

When tried before Judge C. T. Rippey Saturday, he plead guilty and was fined \$25 on each charge.

Practically all stores and offices in Torrance and Lomita will be closed all day Friday, in observance of Memorial Day.