Torrance Herald

With Which Is Consolidated the Lomita News

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WATER IS CITY'S BEST ASSET

First of Three-Article Series Written Especially For Herald By Qualified Engineer Is Informative

(Editor's Note: The following is the first of a series of three informative articles on Water as written by a qualified hydraulic engineer fully accquainted with the Torrance water situation. These articles will be of special interest to all voters in the original city limits who will cast their ballots at the special election to be held Thursday, September 25, for a publicly-owned and operated water producing and distributing system. The articles were specially written for the Herald.)

Water is the most essential commodity, other than air, to the continuation of life. Without water man quickly dies. Few, if any, cities in the United States with more than 10,000 population are without a public water supply. A city with a restricted water supply is a city of restricted growth. Torrance is fast approaching the 10,000 population mark, and the need for an adequate water system to expand with the city and meet its future needs is ever increasing.

We will, then, discuss from the viewpoint of the water supply engineer, the nature of water development; water works and distribution system; the corresponding effects on a city's growth and revenue; and the system of financing.

Must Be Very Reliable

A water works includes the structures, equipment and appurtenances necessary for securing, treating and distributing a water supply. Probably the most important consideration of a water supply is its purity. That item is regulated by law: the inhabitants of a city must be provided with pure water. Next, it is necessary to design a water system with particular reference to reliability, for upon an unfailing supply the entire public depends. Often a greater expense is involved than might otherwise seem strictly necessary, the purpose of which is to produce a water works high in the scale of relative reliability. This is taken into account by the National Board of Fire Underwriters when rating a district for fire insurance purposes. Greater reliability results in a reduced fire insurance rate.

There is one other important factor in the operation of a water system. It is cost of water to the users. Every year there is a greater percentage of municipally owned and operated systems, so that now there are very few cities over 100,000 population having privately owned systems. This is due to two things: First, that water is a prime necessity of all life; and second, that, other things being equal, a municipality cannot operate for individual profit and does not need to show a dividend or an 8 per cent profit. It can therefore be reasonably expected that a city should serve its inhabitants with water at a lower rate.

Why Water Is Treated

In a community such as Torrance, there are these considerations on which must be based the design of any waterworks:

SOURCE OF WATER: The only available source of water at present is ground water from deep wells. Contrary to most popular opinion, practically all ground water must be treated before it can be used. The purpose of this treatment is to insure against any pollution which may penetrate through from the surface, but mainly to improve the keeping qualities of the water between the time it is raised from the wells until it is used—which may be several days.

TREATMENT: The type of treatment mentioned above depends entirely on the exact nature of the minerals and other substances which may be found in the ground water after it has been pumped.

A Problem in Economics

TOPOGRAPHY: Torrance is on level ground, which means that no natural gravity system of maintaining pressure and securing large storage is possible. This necessitates an elevated tank storage to provide fire protection and emergency supply under pressure.

DEMANDS FOR WATER: The per capita consumption of water in Torrance compares with the general average throughout the west which is increasing slowly from year to year. Load conditions, such as difference between summer and winter demand, night and day demand, also affect the design of pumping plants and water storage.

DISTRIBUTION: The points in the city which require the greatest amounts of water naturally require the larger mains. There is also the hydraulic fact that with greater pressure, the same quantity of water can be served through a smaller main. Hence it is a problem of economics: larger mains (costing more) with less pressure (lower tanks and smaller pumps costing less) or the opposite?

Good, Cheap Water Valuable

One of the first questions asked by a resident or an industry who contemplates coming to a city is: Can we get plenty of good water at a reasonable rate? If this can be answered in the affirmative, the probability is high that those people will eventually give greater consideration to the city. At the least it is one of their more serious problems which is eliminated. And with the coming of increased population and industry, a city expands, property values increase, greater payrolls are found, other people, industries and business are attracted with the result pyramiding until a smaller city becomes a larger one.

A municipal water works produces a revenue, which revenue pays for the system and operates it, even as with a private water company—though usually with a greatly reduced rate for the reasons already pointed out. In addition, it is possible in many cases to apply the surplus revenues to the city's general fund, thereby decreasing taxes. There have been many well known cases of a city, through the wise handling of their revenue producing utilities such as water, gas and light, having sufficient surplus—even with cheap rates for these things—to reduce their general taxes almost to nothing.

The details, then, of all of these various points outlined above will be presented through the Torrance Herald in two subsequent articles. We are sure they will prove of general interest in view of the forthcoming election.

DIVERT TRAFFIC

Heavy trucks will not be allowed to traverse Acacia and Beech streets between Carson street and Redondo boulevard but will be directed to Cedar street, which is constructed of cement and better able to withstand the traffic, the council decreed Tuesday night.

Getting Up Nights

If Getting Up Nights, Backache, frequent day calls, Leg Pains, Nervousness, or Burning, due to functional Bladder Irritation, in acid conditions, makes you feel tired, depressed and discouraged, try the Cystex Test. Works fast, starts circulating thru the system in 15 minutes. Praised by thousands for rapid and positive action. Don't give up. Try Cystex (pronounced Siss-tex) today, under the Iron-Clad Guarantee. Must quickly allay these conditions, improve restful sleep and energy, or money back. Only 60c at Dolley Drug Company.—Adv.

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News of Lomita

Last Rites Are Held For Geo. Myerscough

LOMITA.—Funeral services were held at San Pedro Wednesday for Mrs. Mary J. Purdy, 70, who died at her home at 2834 Pine street, Lomita.

Born near Seneca, Mo., Mrs. Purdy came to California in 1917, with her husband F. M. Purdy, since deceased, and other members of her family. She had made her home in Lomita since 1921.

Survivors are one daughter, Mrs. Cora E. Philbrick, of San Pedro; two sons, George F. Purdy of San Francisco, and E. F. Purdy of San Pedro; and a grandson, Gerald Purdy, also of San Pedro.

A. B. Gardner Is Honored by Vets

LOMITA.—A. B. Gardner was initiated as an honorary member of Lomita Post, No. 1622, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at an open meeting held in Scout hall last Wednesday evening.

The membership was conferred on Mr. Gardner in recognition of the fact that he has made it possible for the Veterans, Scouts and kindred organizations to lease Scout hall as a meeting place.

Last Rites Are Held for Mrs. Mary Purdy

LOMITA.—Funeral services were held at the Lomita Catholic church, Tuesday morning, for George William Myerscough who died at his home on 258th street, Harbor City. Death ended an illness of eight months duration.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Martha Myerscough, and five sons, Jack, Richard and William Myerscough, all of Harbor City; Tom Myerscough of New York City and Edward Myerscough of Detroit, Mich.; three daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Brophy, of New York City, Mrs. Martha Jones, of Homestead, Pa., and Mrs. Edgar Love, of Detroit, Mich., and 28 grandchildren, eight of whom live in Harbor City. Interment took place at Roosevelt Memorial Park, with Stone & Myers of Lomita, in charge of arrangements.

LOMITA Briefs

Mrs. Bertha Wilcox, Miss Eva May Wilcox of Beacon street and their houseguest, Mrs. Cora Robinson, were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jillson of Los Angeles, at the Jillson cottage at Manhattan Beach. Other guests were John Mayer of Guadeloupe and John McGarry of Los Angeles.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman P. Briley of Pennsylvania ave. and Mr. and Mrs. Norman Wisher of San Pedro are spending two weeks at the Briley ranch at Paso Robles.

Miss Beatrice Coffey of Narbonne avenue returned last week from a vacation visit with her father, John Coffey, of Raton, New Mexico.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Steigh of Center street and Mrs. Ervin Steigh and sister, Miss Florence Britt, of Weston street spent the holiday at San Diego and "points south."

Graham Tinning of Los Angeles was a week-end and holiday guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Hunter and Miss Katherine Hunter of Beacon street.

Mrs. Harold Rolfe (nee Irene Splittstoesser) accustomed to Lomita's delightful climate, was unable to withstand the heat at Riverside. She returned to Lomita last week, leaving Mr. Rolfe to fight it out alone.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Luck of 257th street attended the picnic held at Banning Park, Monday, by the Baptist church of Torrance.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Edwards and daughters, Olive, Mildred and Pauline, of Weston street enjoyed a visit in San Juan Capistrano, Sunday.

Vacationists End Trips at Supper Picnic in Garage

LOMITA.—Dropping in at the Ray Townsend home on Alliene street, Monday evening, as they returned from trips to mountains or sea, a jolly group of friends enjoyed a picnic supper in the large double garage. Later several tables of bridge were organized.

The party included Mr. and Mrs. Merle Gasser, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Pedersen, Mr. and Mrs. Barron A. Beckham, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Baringer, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Powers, Len Sanders, Fred Montgomery, Jim Ault, Bill Kuiper, George Strong and Harry F. Linderman.

Larger Attendance Is Desired at Night School in Lomita

LOMITA.—This little item about night school is aimed directly at those residents of Lomita, who, for several years have intended to attend the night classes, but, somehow, never get 'round to it.

While the school opens tonight at 7 o'clock with the same faculty as last year, we face a drastic reduction in the staff, unless more interest is manifested "pronto."

While citizenship classes are not at present conducted, aliens who contemplate applying for citizenship papers, will find the English classes a decided help.

TO OCCUPY PULPIT

LOMITA.—Dr. S. T. Montgomery, of Los Angeles, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League, will occupy the pulpit of the Community Presbyterian church next Sunday morning, September 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Laski and family of Weston street spent the holiday at their ranch near Carlsbad.

Mr. and Mrs. Beurl Wineman of Los Angeles were week-end and holiday guests of Mrs. Wineman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Richey, of Chestnut street.

Dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Powers of Alliene street were Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Barron A. Beckham, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Pedersen and Len Sanders.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Baringer and family of Hollydale, and nephew, Clinton, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Powers, of Alliene street, returned Monday from a two months auto trip to their old home in Warren, Ohio.

A weiner bake at Brighton Beach Monday proved a pleasant affair for Mr. and Mrs. Merel Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Johnson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Edwards and daughters, and Stanley Rosencrantz.

Miss Emma Rasch returned to New York City, Tuesday, after a two months visit at the home of her cousin, Mrs. Verne L. Maxfield.

Gordon McHenry of Poppy street, has joined the Coast Guards, and is a member of the crew of the Algonquin.

M. L. Strait of Narbonne avenue is about again, following a weeks illness.

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Mrs. Maurer Back From Convention

LOMITA.—Mrs. Kathleen D. Maurer, 2680 262nd street returned last week from San Jose, where she represented local Rosicrucians at the annual International Rosicrucian convention.

A feature of the convention, according to Mrs. Maurer, was a demonstration of Rosicrucian physics.

Professor Roberts, eminent Rosicrucian and scientist, and perfector of liquid air, devoted an afternoon to a demonstration of the marvelous results accomplished through liquid air, and further explained its adaptation to commercial uses.

Lomita Pair Will Observe 50th Year

(Continued from Page 1)

assisted in laying the corner stone of the Masonic temple in that city and is proud of his 52 years as a Mason. He possesses a past master medal bearing dates of 1894 and 1906. He still retains his membership in Fort Morgan lodge, Oasis No. 67 and Mrs. Arbuckle is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, No. 54, of the same place.

Both Proud of Vote

The Arbuckles have had two sons and two daughters, one son and the daughters are still living. Mrs. Arbuckle's health caused them to move to California eight years ago and for the past four years they have made their home in Lomita. Here Mrs. Arbuckle has improved greatly in health and both of them are to be found in exceptional happy spirits.

One of Mr. Arbuckle's proud boasts is that he has never missed casting his ballot since, August, 1874 and Mrs. Arbuckle has voted since Colorado granted women the franchise in 1894.

Boulevard Group Will Meet Tonight

LOMITA.—The regular meeting of the Lomita South Sepulveda Boulevard Association will be held tonight in Scout hall on Weston street.

C. H. Quandt is expected to report on his trip to San Francisco, Oakland and Berkeley, whither he went to secure signatures of property owners in the Quandt tract.

SECRETARY OF CHAMBER VISITS SAN DIEGO FRIENDS

LOMITA.—Frank Buker, secretary of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce with Mrs. Buker and family enjoyed several days visit with friends in San Diego and Chula Vista.

In the latter city, they were guests of Dr. Carl K. Kellogg, a former roommate of Mr. Buker's in Montana, and son of the "cornflake king."

LONG SEPARATION

Mrs. Annie Rutherford, of Little Rock, Ark., arrived Friday to visit her father, J. J. Boatman. Father and daughter had not met for 17 years.

BUILDING LAX DURING LAST MONTH HERE

Expect More Construction in September With Vacation Period Over

New building in Torrance was "very quiet" during August, a survey of the construction records at the City Engineer's office this week shows. The total for the month was $11,495, bringing the amount of new construction in this city for the year to date to $361,579.

Reason for the lax period for construction here was given by builders as because of the vacation period and the nation-wide period of industrial retrenchment. In August, 1929, building here amounted to $51,650 and the first eight months of that year saw $429,723 in new building in this city.

Now that the vacation period is over, contractors are expecting to set a better figure for the month of September, it is reported as many are planning to erect homes and business structures in the city. According to the City Engineer's reports, Monte Darling built a five-room stucco house and garage at 2368 Maricopa Place to cost $2800 during the last week in August. Y. Yamaguchi is constructing a frame and stucco social hall for Japanese at 24237 Ward street in Walteria. The building will cost $1200 to construct.

TORRANCE BRIEFS

Mrs. Greenway returned to her home in Phoenix, Ariz., Tuesday after spending two weeks with her daughter, Mrs. Jack Fuller.

Miss Ida Woodington arrived last week from Pittsburgh, Pa., and plans to make her home in Torrance. She is a cousin to Mrs. Dallas Stewart.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sammons drove to their resort home at Twin Lakes for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. John Guyan and family drove to Santa Barbara to spend Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Banks and family and Miss Inez Smith went to Wohlford Lake on a fishing trip over the Labor Day holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Schlick, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Schaffer and Mr. and Mrs. James Scott drove to Idyllwild to spend Sunday and Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Isenstein have moved to their newly remodeled home on 203rd street in the Pueblo. Their new home has twelve rooms and three bath rooms and is one of the finest in Torrance.

Numerous jars of fig jam were made last week by ladies of the Methodist Missionary Society for the David and Margaret home at La Verne. Mrs. Frank Warren and Mrs. R. F. Hogue furnished the figs and Mrs. Roy Kizer, Mrs. D. C. Turner, Mrs. R. F. Hogue, Mrs. Frank Carr and Mrs. E. N. Tomkins made the jam.

Ladeene Banks, Beulah Cooper, Ama Beckwith, and Mrs. Irene Sturgis spent Saturday and Sunday in Catalina.

Among those who spent the Labor Day holidays at the cabin of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Clever at Crestline Village were Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Tomkins, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Richhart, Mr. and Mrs. Ray G. Tomkins and three sons, Everett Richhart, all of Torrance, and Charles McCown of Del Monte.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Dexter left this morning for their home in Artesia, N. M., after spending several weeks visiting relatives here.

Louis Sullivan, who has been visiting his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Wertz, has returned to his home in Pasadena.

Miss Emma Rasch, who has been the houseguest of her cousin, Mrs. V. L. Maxfield, for several weeks, left Tuesday to return to her home in New York City via the Grand Canyon and the Petrified Forest.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom McGuire, Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Rippy, with Mr. and Mrs. R. T. French and family and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley J. Webb of Glendale, spent the holidays at Los Angeles County Playground.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Modesitt, who have been spending a two weeks vacation at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Wertz, plan to return to their home at Grand Junction, Ariz., the first of next week.

Mr. and Mrs. George Kipp of 811 Cota avenue are the proud parents of a baby boy, born Saturday, August 30.

Mrs. Minnie Luce of Los Angeles was the houseguest of Mrs. L. L. Fordice last week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Johnson and son Billy drove to Riverside Sunday.

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