Consolidated Edition Torrance Herald and Lomita News

Only Newspaper Published In Torrance

Torrance Herald and LOMITA NEWS

Over 60,000 People Live Within 5-Mile Radius

Two Sections 8 Pages This Issue

SEVENTEENTH YEAR—No. 23 TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1931 5c PER COPY

Ex-Service Men Voice Approval of Park Bond Issue

Urge All Citizens to Vote June 9

BERT S. CROSSLAND POST, THE AMERICAN LEGION

To the Honorable City Council of the City of Torrance. Gentlemen:

WHEREAS, recognizing the needs of the people of the City of Torrance for a Municipal Park and Playgrounds to be improved large enough to accommodate all those within the Torrance area, and

WHEREAS, believing that municipal improvement projects should be consummated at the present time to stimulate business and relieve poverty by furnishing work for local men, and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Torrance has called an election for the purpose of voting bonds to finance the building of a municipal park and playgrounds, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Bert S. Crossland Post, No. 170, American Legion, that this bond election have our approval and support; that the citizens of Torrance be urged to vote in favor of these bonds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that insofar as may be legally possible and practicable, only such park sites shall be considered for purchase which may be suitable and available and at a price no greater than that which may be set by a board of three appraisers to be suggested by the State Realty Board.

BE IT ALSO FURTHER RESOLVED that no persons not citizens of the United States and of the City of Torrance be given employment on the construction of the park improvements.

A copy of this resolution to be sent to the Torrance Herald for publication. This resolution was adopted in a regular meeting of the American Legion on May 12, 1931, by the following standing vote:

For: 50. Against: 7. Not voting: 5.

CHARLES E. CONNER, Commander.

H. J. SUMMERS, Adjutant.

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE AT ROOSEVELT PARK SATURDAY

Six Legion Posts to Present Observance Beginning at 1:30 P. M.; Lieutenant Governor Will Be Speaker

All residents of Torrance and vicinity are cordially invited to attend the Memorial Day services Saturday afternoon from 1:30 to 4 o'clock, May 30, at Roosevelt Memorial Park. The observance is under the auspices of the American Legion posts of Torrance, Hawthorne, El Segundo, Redondo, Compton and Gardena. The park is located on South Vermont avenue at 182nd street.

The speaker of the day will be the Hon. Frank F. Merriam, lieutenant governor of California, who will be introduced by A. E. Henning, Los Angeles councilman for the 15th district. Special guests will be members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Spanish American War Veterans, Veterans of All Wars and the following mayors: John Dennis, Torrance; C. A. Dickison, Compton; John M. Clark, Redondo; George Love, El Segundo; S. A. Jones, Hawthorne, and Wayne A. Bogart, Gardena.

Outline of Program

Preceding and following the Memorial Day services, an organ recital by Alfred H. Deeks will be given on the giant Roosevelt instrucent.

The complete program is as follows:

March, Our Legion on Parade; Patrol, Spirit of America; (a), A Soldier's Rosary; (b), Just a Baby's Prayer at Twilight; (c), Old Pal, Why Don't You Answer Me?; Reminiscences of Turbulent Days by Deeks; This Is Your Flag (207th Battalion Song); March, National Emblem.

Memorial Day Services

To the Colors, Gardena Valley Legion Post Drum, Bugle and Fife Corps; The Organ, Assembly Sing America; Invocation, Rev. Hurley, Torrance Catholic Church; Stars and Stripes Forever, Gardena Boys Band; Introduction of guests from Grand Army of Republic, Spanish American War and Veterans of All Wars.

Vocal solo, Mrs. Lee B. Hawkins; Respect to Departed Comrades, Boy Scouts of America; Trumpet solo, Ray Foster; Introduction of Lieutenant-Governor Frank F. Merriam by A. E. Henning.

Address, Frank F. Merriam, Lieutenant-Governor; Thirty sec-

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Holiday Saturday To Be Observed

Proper observance of Memorial Day, Saturday, will be general throughout the city as Torrance merchants are reported planning to remain closed all day out of respect for the nation's dead.

Torrance stores will be closed all day Saturday. They will remain open tomorrow, Friday, evening until 9 o'clock. Food markets will stay open until 8 p. m. Friday to accommodate shoppers who wish to take advantage of the bargains offered in today's issue of the Herald.

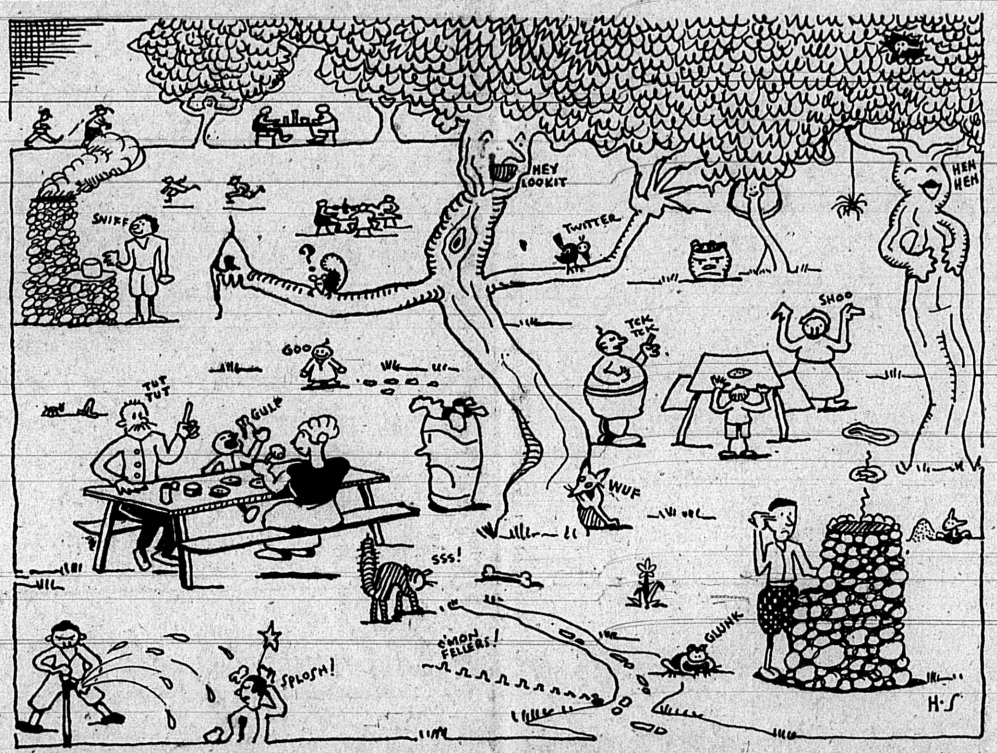
The program for the local observance of Memorial Day, to be held at Roosevelt Memorial Park, will be found elsewhere on this page.

Two School Board Candidates in Race

The only interest Torrance will have as a voting community in the Los Angeles City General Municipal election June 2, will be in the selection of a member of the Board of Education from two candidates. J. M. Alkow and Lucius C. Dale are the aspirants to receive the votes of Torrance residents. The polls will open at 6 a. m. and close at 7 p. m.

Following are the polling places here: Consolidated Torrance Precinct 1 and Lomita Precinct 8 at the Walnut Street school in Walteria; Consolidated Precincts 2, 3 and 4, at 1031 Arlington avenue; Consolidated Precincts 5, 6 and 8, at 2118 Carson street; Consolidated Precincts 7 and 11, at the American Legion club house, and Consolidated Precincts 9 and 10, at 1915 Andreo avenue.

HEY! HEY! PICNICKERS!



Every day can be picnic day in the Torrance Municipal Park. In the above drawing, Herbert Summers, artist-engineer, has depicted a picnic scene wherein all inhabitants of the park (even angle-worms!) are having a good time. Instead of traveling miles and miles for a bit of recreation such as a lot of us are planning to do this week-end, a jaunt of a few minutes will take us this fall to our own park and picnic grounds amid a charming woodland setting—if the bonds for the park and children's playgrounds carry June 9. Do you want a table and fireplace under that beautiful tree in the center of the picnic grounds? Then vote "YES" at the bond election!

One of the most important points in the design of the proposed Torrance Municipal Park is the location and setting for a large picnic grounds. This area is to be located in a woodland setting, shaded by trees, surrounded by shrubbery and furnished with brick and stone outdoor fireplaces, benches, tables and rest rooms.

"We ought to have a place families and organized groups can go in our own city for an evening picnic or wiener-bake without loading up for a journey to some other city to enjoy their park," declared a prominent citizen yesterday.

A Park Right at Home

The need for a picnic ground has long been felt here; clubs and organizations have had to go to Wilmington or Redondo for their evening frolics out-of-doors; additional expense is always incurred in trips to other cities—why can't we have such pleasures at home?

We can—the proposed Torrance Municipal Park includes all recreational features we have had to travel many miles to and from other places to enjoy. Surrounding the picnic ground of our own park will be everything a modern city park should have—swimming pool, baseball diamond, band stand, tennis and handball courts, beautiful gardens, pathways and walks, children's playground, athletic apparatus, the whole encompassed in a beautiful, natural setting.

Showplace of City

This will be OUR park—a place to which we may go at any time; free of incidental expense; open to our guests and visitors; a showplace of our city and an attraction to non-residents.

Such a center for wholesome sport and recreation will cost the average home-owner less than 90 cents a year; the average property owner about 35 cents a year to take care of the bonds' interest and redemption. It can be maintained out of the Chamber of Commerce fund.

Ninety cents or 35 cents—for a year's use of a park you'll be proud to claim as your own! Could you spend that amount any better?

HARBOR CHAMBERS TO CONVENE AT AVALON

In honor of the homecoming of Frank Merriam, lieutenant-governor and past president of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce, a gala program has been arranged for June 13 and 14 for that organization's fifth annual convention. June 9 is set as the dead-line for reservations for the event, according to Carl Hyde.

Cupid Puts 4 'on Spot'

Dennis Reports No Lack of Knots to Tie

Although Dan Cupid was handed a hard jolt by the economic depression last year, according to a United Press dispatch received by the Herald this week from Sacramento, his business is good in Lomita township.

Judge John Dennis has experienced no lack of blushing brides and nervous bridegrooms since he's been in office. In fact they are coming at him in pairs now to get the knots tied.

Two sisters were brides in a double wedding ceremony performed by the judge at his home Sunday afternoon. Each acted as a witness for the other and Mrs. Mary Lane, their mother, was principal attendant. Nan Lane married Harry Moy and Wilma M. Lane promised to love, honor and cherish Don H. Berry. All were from Los Angeles, and both couples departed on a joint honeymoon after the rites.

Park Sites on Arlington Avenue and Hawthorne Ave. Offered

Two new park sites are soon to be offered to the city of Torrance, it was learned this week from representatives of property owners involved. One of the sites is a 12-acre tract on Arlington avenue at Plaza del Amo, with an adjoining 19-acre tract owned by another party. This makes a total of 31 acres fronting on Arlington avenue, and is the closest-in site offered as yet.

The other new park site lies on Hawthorne boulevard close to Torrance (Redondo) boulevard. The prices to be asked for either the Arlington avenue or Hawthorne boulevard tracts could not be learned, but the Herald was given definite assurance that the properties will be offered to the city at an early date.

Other sites previously tendered the city are an 18-acre piece fronting on Torrance (Redondo) boulevard, west of Hickory, offered by the Santa Fe Land & Improvement Company; and a 36-acre tract at the corner of Carson and Madrona offered by the Torrance Holding Company. A price of $2000 per acre has been quoted on both these parcels.

At a recent meeting of the City Council it was unanimously agreed by members of the council, that no action on any sites would be taken until after the bond issue is approved on June 9.

Legionnaires, Auxiliary Await "Call to Arms" Test Tonight

Tonight every member of the Bert S. Crossland Post, American Legion, and the Legion Auxiliary will "stand by" for the annual statewide mobilization test. The "call to arms" will be broadcast over a number of radio stations and will also be sounded by three wails from the Torrance Fire Department siren three times in succession. The signal is expected to be broadcast between 7 and 8 p. m.

Immediately after the announcement the members of the organization will assemble at the Legion club house on Carson street. Reports of the number of men assembled will be instantly telephoned to the Legion's headquarters in Los Angeles and then transmitted to Governor James Rolph Jr. at Sacramento.

Each Torrance Legionnaire and Auxiliary member has been requested to take some articles of canned food to set up an emergency kitchen tonight.

Compete for Trophies

Mobilization tests of the Legion in the past have proved very successful and the membership has responded to the call with enthusiasm ready to assist in any emergency which may have risen. The organization for the mobilization is being handled under the directions of L. F. Olson, of Los Angeles, chairman of the Legion's emergency commission.

"The importance of being prepared for emergency relief work cannot be stressed too highly," Commander Earl Conner said today, in announcing the call for the test. "The American Legion is on record with the citizens of California as to its ability to cope with an emergency situation and these annual tests are held with the idea of being fully prepared when such emergencies actually occur. In the past when such emergencies as the breaking of the St. Francis dam have occurred the Legion, as an organization, has always been first on the job. The rendering of service to a stricken humanity fulfills one of the Legion's most significant obligations."

A number of trophies are being offered to the posts which assemble the largest number of members in the quickest time.

JOINT KIWANIS MEET

The entire membership of the Inglewood Kiwanis club will attend the meeting of the Torrance Kiwanis club here Monday evening at Earl's cafe. A gala program is being arranged by the visiting clubmen.

Proceedings By Water Company Are Unsuitable

Because the injunction proceedings drafted by the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company attorneys contained extraneous matter not pertaining to the legality of the act under which the water bonds were voted September 25, the proceedings were rejected this week by the city's attorneys.

This was the latest move in the controversy which has held up the sale of the $400,000 bond issue to create a publicly-owned water system, according to City Attorney Perry G. Briney.

In Superior Court

"The papers drafted by the water company's attorneys were unsuitable to our attorneys because they contained references to matters which do not pertain to the

(Continued on 4-A)

CABRILLO AVE. TO BE PAVED; TORRANCE BLVD. BEAUTIFIED

Shifting Sands and Traffic Hazard, Long Eyesores to Citizens, to Be Covered With Pavement, Flower Beds

The narrow roadways caused by the unpaved portion of Cabrillo avenue and the shifting sands of Torrance (Redondo) boulevard, two eyesores that have long irritated Torrance residents, are soon to be a memory. And in their places will appear a wide boulevard on Cabrillo, paved curb to curb, and a Torrance (Redondo) boulevard graced with pretty shrubs and blooming flower beds.

These long sought improvements on two of the most important arteries in Torrance were assured Tuesday of this week following a conference between all members of the Torrance City Council and D. W. Pontius, general manager of the Pacific Electric Railway Company, at the latter's office in Los Angeles. Details have been agreed upon, and all that remains to be accomplished before actual work can begin on the improvements is the drafting and signing of the official documents. It is expected that these papers will be ready for signatures in about a week.

Cabrillo Avenue

The agreement calls for moving the Pacific Electric tracks on Cabrillo avenue between Border avenue and Carson street to the center of the street, and provides an 80-foot thoroughfare paved from curb to curb. By centering the tracks on the street, a serious traffic hazard is eliminated, as automobiles will be able to back out from parking spaces on either side of the street without obstructing the tracks or blocking the passage of other vehicles which will use the center of the street. The cost of moving the tracks and improving the unpaved portions of Cabrillo avenue will be very small if present plans of the city engineer are adopted. It is planned to have the work completed by fall.

Torrance Boulevard

On Torrance (Redondo) boulevard, the agreement calls for paving between the switch tracks at the junction of Sartori avenue and Torrance boulevard and the removal of the Pacific Electric's tracks entirely on Torrance boulevard from Sartori avenue west. The entire parkway on Torrance boulevard between the double roadways from Sartori to Cedar avenues is to be landscaped and planted. The City Council recognizes that Torrance boulevard is one of the most important arteries entering this city and plans to make it a beauty spot, so that visitors to this city entering from the west will be favorably impressed.

Old Fight

The agreement reached this week between Mr. Pontius and the City Council culminates years of negotiations. Perhaps the most effective tactical move made by the city was the recent notice served on the Pacific Electric that unless the railroad laid its tracks the full length of Torrance boulevard, the city would exercise its reversionary rights on the highway and demand the abandonment of all railroad rights and titles on the boulevard. The city previously had been deeded the reversionary rights by the Dominguez Land Corporation.

Legal Part

The legal phases of this week's agreement are interesting. The Pacific Electric grants permission to the city to pave and use its right-of-way on Cabrillo avenue without any cash payment; but in exchange for this privilege, the city agrees to grant the railroad reversionary rights on other streets to an estimated land value of $32,500. In all previous negotiations the Pacific Electric has demanded cash payments of from $32,500 to $55,600 for its right-of-way on Cabrillo avenue. The railroad company also agrees to permit the city to remove its tracks on Torrance boulevard west of Sartori and to lease the parking space between the roadways to the city for park purposes at a nominal rental of one dollar a year. The city and Cabrillo avenue property owners are to pay all expenses of moving the tracks on Cabrillo avenue as well as the cost of paving the unpaved portions. This cost will be very small if plans now in mind by the city materialize. The city is also to re-imburse the railroad for the labor cost of removing its tracks on Torrance boulevard as well as for the beautification of the parkway.

Grade Crossing

Pacific Electric officials also agree not to oppose a proposed grade crossing of the company's tracks at the lower end of Cabrillo avenue near Plaza del Amo. This is important in order that roadways on both sides of the tracks may be used when the proposed Cabrillo avenue extension is com-

(Continued on Page 5-A)

PRIZE LISTS FOR FLOWER SHOW READY

Garden Lovers Should Get Copies; Contain Full Information

Every effort was made this week by the committee in charge of the arrangements for the Fourth Annual American Legion Flower Show, which is to be held here June 5 and 6, to send copies of the final premium list to all exhibitors who entered the preceding three shows and also all known garden lovers.

If any were missed and if other residents of Torrance and vicinity would like to participate in the show and compete for the many prizes offered, they should get in touch with Carleton B. Bell, phone 260, or call at the First National Bank, where Robert J. Deininger, assistant cashier, will be glad to hand out copies of the premium list.

Open to All Growers

The Fourth Annual Community Betterment Flower Show, sponsored by the Bert S. Crossland Post, No. 170, American Legion, will open at 8 p. m. Friday, June 5, in the former Buick garage building on Cabrillo avenue, opposite the Chamber of Commerce. It will close at 10 p. m. on that first day. The show will re-open at 10 a. m. Saturday, June 6, and close at 10 p. m.

The Flower Show committee, composed of Carleton B. Bell, chairman; H. Miller Bailey, publicity; G. L. Morris, show room arrangements, and James Brodie, prizes, has compiled a complete summary of the show in an attractive six-page pamphlet. This contains all information pertaining to the exposition and presents a complete list of the prizes offered.

The amateur division is the largest in the show, although provisions have been made for a commercial division that is open to

(Continued on Page 5-A)

North Lomita Annexation To City Approved

By a vote of nearly three to one, the northern section of Lomita decided Tuesday to annex to the city of Torrance. The vote was: For annexation, 108; Against annexation, 40.

A keen interest was shown in the election as the total vote, 148, represents a major proportion of the electors in the territory. Unofficial estimates of the population in the district generally concede that there are approximately 250 residents there. The new Torrance territory takes in Lomita community as far south as Beacon street, except for a jog that does not take in Beacon on the east.

With the addition of the 580 acres of the new territory, Torrance will rank as the third largest incorporated area in the county without question. Official and recent figures show that the largest cities in the county in square miles, are as follows: Los Angeles, 441.56; Long Beach, 29; TORRANCE, 19.3; Pasadena, 17.69; Glendale, 19.21; Burbank, 16,. and Santa Monica, 10.