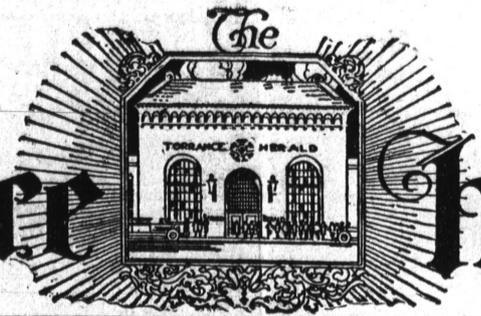


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Only Newspaper
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Consolidated
Edition
Torrance Herald
and Lomita News

EIGHTEENTH YEAR—No. 23

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1932

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ATTEMPT TO DETHRONE MAYOR FOLLOWS ATTACK ON STEINER

Klusman Attacks Many City Officials; Ludlow Chastizes Mayor for Tactics But Agrees With Him On Police Clean-up

Mayor Klusman renewed his attacks upon Councilman R. A. R. Steiner, City Engineer Frank Leonard and Supt. of Streets Wm. Gascoigne at Tuesday night's council meeting when "His Honor" unsuccessfully attempted to unseat Steiner from the chairmanship of the Public Works Committee and to disqualify Leonard and Gascoigne from serving as city engineer and street superintendent.

Hurrying through city business which came up earlier in the meeting on the plea that he had something "very important to bring up," Klusman opened up his barrage on Steiner, Leonard and Gascoigne with the charge that they had violated the law and were therefore disqualified to remain in their positions. Without waiting for the council to act or even to give the other members of the council an opportunity to express themselves, Klusman, assuming that he had the power to remove Steiner, appointed Councilman Scott Ludlow as acting chairman of the public works committee and added that he (the mayor) would help Ludlow perform the additional duties.

Mayor Klusman based his charges on the assumption that Councilman Steiner, as well as City Engineer Leonard and Supt. of Streets Gascoigne had "unlawfully" authorized the lowering of certain water pipe lines which crossed Sepulveda boulevard at city expense, and asserted that this work should have been done by Charles Quandt whose water company owns the pipe lines.

Steiner answered that under the Quandt franchise that the city would have had to give Quandt 30 days notice to do the work in which event the county crews would have been withdrawn from the job and many local men working for the county would have been thrown out of work. Steiner also cited the case of the board of supervisors vs. Pan-American Oil Company, in which the county was compelled to pay for the removal of the oil company's pipe lines on Vermont avenue when that road was put through; and he asserted that even if the city had given Quandt the required 30 days notice, that the cost would have had to be borne by the city. Steiner

TURN TO STORY ONE
Page 2

Donations to Unemployment Fund Asked

City Officials Authorized to Act As Custodians of Money

All those who wish to contribute toward the aid of the unemployed may do so through bonded city officials, according to action taken by the city council this week. On motion of Councilman Steiner, City Clerk Bartlett was authorized to receive contributions from anyone and to deposit the funds with City Treasurer Harry Dolley. The money will be spent through the department of public works and will be used exclusively for employing men now out of work. Steiner has fathered such a plan for nearly a year, but official sanction was not given until this week. Councilman Scott Ludlow made a plea for donations, emphasizing the dire needs. He suggested that organizations such as the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, as well as all other local organizations, forego any plans for social parties and donate the cost of such parties to the unemployment fund. Ludlow also suggested that people be asked to give \$1 or \$2 a week. "We must give until it hurts," said Ludlow, "as the country is coming to a point where something must be done."

Since the Tuesday night meeting, tentative plans are being discussed for conducting a drive similar to war-loan campaigns.

Lutheran Church Sponsors Daily Vacation School

A daily vacation Bible school has been scheduled for two weeks, beginning June 20, to be held in the Parish hall of the First Lutheran church, Acadia street and Sonoma avenue. The school will be open five mornings each week from 9:15 to 11:15.

The work of the school has been arranged according to the age of the child with the Bible stories as the center of the training. The sand table will be used for the Bible stories, Bible story puzzles for the primary children, crayon and cut-out work for the juniors, singing and study of favorite hymns and missionary stories for all. Children of kindergarten age and over are welcome, with a special invitation to children that are not attending any Sunday school.

AGED LOMITA MAN PASSED AWAY MONDAY

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Mrs. L. R. Brandon and daughter are enjoying a vacation at Lakeview, Oregon.

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POPCORN MAN IS LEAVING

After nine years in Torrance Joe Stevens is moving away. The popular popcorn man who has held down the corner at the First National Bank through rain and shine and winter weather for all these years is going to Glendale. He says, that he is sorry to go. And the people of Torrance will say right back to him, Well, Joe, we hate to see you leave.

Business interests and an opportunity for his daughter, who graduates this year from Torrance high, to go to college in Los Angeles without the trouble and expense of commuting are his reasons. He's putting on a sale of his stock at half price that has attracted all the kids in town who are laying in a supply of candy bars and so on to be prepared for the day that Joe moves away. Well, so long Joe, and a lot of good luck and a bigger opportunity to you in Glendale.

SET ELECTION DATE TO VOTE RELIEF BONDS

Action On \$12,000,000 Issue Up to the People On July 15

Election date for the approval of an issue of \$12,000,000 in bonds for relief of unemployment and distress was set by the board of supervisors this week for July 15. The election was approved on motion of Supervisor John R. Quinn. Not a dollar of the bond funds must be wasted. It was stressed by speakers who appeared before the board Wednesday. The distribution of funds will be supervised by an advisory committee of seven members.

Two-thirds vote of the people will be necessary to carry the bonds, which, if voted, will be issued in small amounts, probably as low as \$25, in order to give everyone a chance to purchase them.

A drive similar to the Liberty Loan campaigns will be staged for the sale if the bonds are voted. It was specified that \$3,500,000 of the total is to be turned into the county welfare budget to cut the tax rate for the coming fiscal year, which was \$8 cents last year.

Supervisor Quinn insisted that if the bonds are voted that all money must be put into labor on worthy projects. He insisted, particularly on the improvement of Sepulveda boulevard, Lomita boulevard, South Figueroa street, Santa Fe avenue and Normandie, all highway projects of great importance to the harbor district.

Will Advertise Torrance to Hot Belt Communities

Tourists from Arizona will be invited to make Torrance their headquarters this summer during the Olympic Games. The invitation will be broadcast in a series of advertisements in Phoenix and Tucson newspapers between now and July 10, according to plans perfected by the Chamber of Commerce. A \$300 appropriation was voted by the city council this week to cover the cost of the campaign.

Last summer the Chamber of Commerce spent \$1000 in advertising in the "hot belt" communities and 65 families came to Torrance to live last summer, who were attracted by the advertising. It is expected that the smaller expenditure this year will serve as a follow-up of the more extensive campaign last year. Chamber officials point out that Torrance is very strategically situated for visitors at the Olympic Games, as this city is located midway between the Olympic stadium in Los Angeles and Recreational Park and Alamitos Bay in Long Beach, where the aquatic sports will be held.

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Calendar of Events In Commencement Week

Events of the closing week of school at the Torrance high will begin with commencement services in the auditorium on Sunday evening, June 12, when the summer class of '32, to the number of 52 will listen to the sermon delivered for this occasion by Rev. G. G. Elder of the Christian church. The affair will begin at 7 o'clock.

The program as offered on this evening will be as follows: Invocation, Rev. O. D. Wonder. "Gloria Patria" Palestrina; "Chorale" Bach; by the Madrigal Singers.

Scripture reading, R. V. Roelofs. Prayer, Rev. Kemp J. Winkler. Sermon, Rev. G. G. Elder. Benediction, Rev. J. H. Speed.

On Monday the former graduates will meet in their annual homecoming day. On Tuesday the seniors will hold their class day program. On Wednesday the junior high school graduates summer class of '35 will have their commencement exercises in the auditorium at 1:30. George Bradford, master of ceremonies, will preside. The program as arranged for this occasion includes:

Piano solo, "Meditation," Ruth Granger.
Oration, "The Story of Our Flag," Vivian Carroll.
"The Smiling Dawn," "Dark Eyes," by the Girls' Glee club.
Poem, "The Unfurling of the Flag," Alice Penneman.
"The Cowboy," "Robin Hood," by the Boys' Glee club.

Oration, "Ancient Olympic Games," Roger McGinnis.
Vocal solo, "Cavertina," William Emery.
Oration, "Modern Day Olympics," James Grubbs.
Presentation of diplomas, Principal Herbert S. Wood.
Commencement on Thursday evening, June 16, will be followed by an informal reception in the patio.

The program as prepared for commencement is as follows: Invocation, Rev. K. J. Winkler. Vocal solo, "Trees," Marje Belasco.
"The Silver Swan," "Which Is the Properest Day to Sing" by Madrigal Singers.
Oration, "History of the Olympics," Bertha Hinman.
Vocal trio, "Dark Eyes," Bernice Baker, Margery Roelofs, Virginia Turner.
Oration, "Modern Olympics," Lendel Elder.
Vocal solo, "Two Grenadiers," Van Barteckho.
Oration, "Women in the Olympics," Ruth Wilhelm.
Violin solo, Marguerite Lincoln.
Presentation of Scholarship Honors, Miss Irene Mills, Sponsor, Ch. S. F.

Presentation of Ephesian Rings, Miss Elizabeth F. Parks, Vice Principal.
Presentation of class, Mr. Herbert S. Wood, Principal.
Presentation of Diplomas, Mr. L. C. Dale, member of Board of Education.
Recessional.

Torrance Asked to Raise \$73 As Share Expenses

Invited to Co-operate in Movement to Relieve Home Owner

Mayor W. T. Klusman has turned over to the Torrance Chamber of Commerce the task of raising funds by popular subscription to put this community in line to receive benefits from the proposed Los Angeles Home Owners Trust Fund, which movement has for its object the saving of the property of the small home owner from foreclosure and loss.

As a necessary preliminary to putting the plan into operation, \$10,000 must be raised for operating expenses. Of this sum Torrance's share is \$73. Twenty-four cities of which Torrance is one have been asked to raise \$5,000 of the amount, pro-rated as to population, while the city of Los Angeles raises the other half.

Since home owners are now losing their homes at the rate of at least three a day through foreclosure proceedings, it has been observed that some drastic step must be taken to end such a distressing situation. The Los Angeles Home Owners Trust Fund is the result of the thought and labor of a ways and means committee appointed recently by Mayor John C. Porter of Los Angeles.

Under their plan a fund of \$2,000,000 is to be raised, from which loans will be made to meet the immediate needs of the property owner who is faced with eviction. The sum is to be raised by the sale of beneficiary interests at \$1.00 each, through public subscription developed by churches, service clubs and civic organizations.

The trust must be liquidated in five years, or sooner, in the discretion of the trustees if the need for its operation disappears through the return to prosperity of those to whom loans are made, and equal distribution of all trust funds and accumulated earnings will be made to the holders of beneficiary interests as their interests may appear.

The campaign to raise Torrance's share of \$73 will begin at once, and a vigorous effort will be made in every community to put the trust fund into operation as early as possible in order to save as many as possible of the small property owners who are now in distressed circumstances.

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P. O. EMPLOYEES LOSE MONEY

Postoffice employes in Torrance are due to lose money when the new salary bill for government employes goes into effect. The bill has passed the senate and is now being considered in the house of representatives. It takes off a 10 per cent cut from the pay check, which will amount to a considerable sum as calculated by the shark for figures among the postoffice force.

A mere \$221.50 a month, or \$2661.60 a year. Enough to make a good salary for another employe if the department at Washington should be so kindhearted as to put one on the force. The cut affects all the Torrance force from Postmaster Al Gourdiar down.

BEGIN GRADING FOR FERN AVE SCHOOL HOUSE

Compton Contractor Has Men and Machinery at Work On Site

Work on the new Fern avenue elementary school in Torrance today is well under way, with the grading of the site at the corner of Fern avenue and El Dorado street. A cut between five and six feet is necessary to bring the building site down to grade and the earth excavated is being placed at another place.

George Mitty, Los Angeles contractor, was low bidder on the general contract, and the building permit calls for a structure to cost \$84,000. The building is a 12-unit structure.

Excavation work is being done by the Owl Trucking Company, having been sublet by Mitty. The Owl Company is a Compton concern. Approximately a dozen men are being employed at the outset.

The building, which will face Fern avenue, will be of the Spanish type of architecture, with brick walls and stucco exterior and red tile roof. Stairways and corridors, however, are to be of reinforced concrete, to conform to the laws governing construction of school buildings.

The general contractor has 125 working days in which to complete the building. General contracting work will cost \$47,250; plumbing, \$4398; heating, \$3829; painting, \$1999, and electrical work and fixtures, \$1379, according to the architectural department of the Los Angeles board of education.

The Torrance city council recently forwarded a resolution to the board asking that local labor be used on the contract as far as possible.

Legionnaires to Gather at Catalina For Annual Outing

Members of the American Legion will make their eleven-day annual pilgrimage to Catalina Island for the annual outing next Saturday and Sunday, June 11-12. This event, which promises to be the biggest since the inauguration of the affair, will be held under the auspices of the Los Angeles county council. The program will include a "stunt" by each post, competition among various drum and bugle corps, bands and drill teams, a "Neptune Party" by the San Diego post, a baseball game and a two-day Legionnaire golf tournament with a grand ball at the Catalina Casino on Saturday evening.

Small Turnout For Mobilization

Sixty-seven Legionnaires of the Bert S. Crossland Post reported for duty on hearing the emergency mobilization call sounded by the fire department Sunday morning about 9 o'clock. This number represents about 30 per cent of the strength of the post. Of the auxiliary, 43 members turned out, bringing with them a quantity of supplies. Troop 2 of the Boy Scouts turned out 22 of its 37 members, while Scouts from other troops increased that representation to 29. Firemen and police of Torrance were represented by a majority of their members.

MAN IS BURNED IN TERRIFIC EXPLOSION AT PLAZA HOTEL

Disastrous Consequences Attend Attempt of Carroll J. McCloud to Light a Cigarette In Gas-filled Room

With a terrific blast that shook the houses for blocks around, a gas explosion in Room 3 at the Plaza Hotel at 1:20 Wednesday morning, wrecked the room, broke windows in both upper and lower floors of the building and put Carroll J. McCloud, age 31, in the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital suffering from burns over almost three-fourths of his body. His condition is critical and medical attendants hold out scant hope for his survival.

Old Grads Hold Home Coming Reunion Monday

Great Preparations Being Made for Annual Event at High School

Extensive preparations have been made by the committee in charge of arrangements for the fifth annual Torrance high school alumni homecoming and reunion to be held at the high school, Monday, June 13, according to President Leonard Babcock, '27.

An all-day session has been planned with registration of graduates beginning at 10:00. The old grads will then have an opportunity to renew acquaintances and visit classes and teachers until luncheon. At 1:15 a pep rally and entertainment will be held in the auditorium to be followed by the annual baseball game between the varsity and alumni. The annual banquet and business meeting will be held in the school cafeteria beginning at 6:30 o'clock to be followed by an evening of dancing in the gymnasium.

Torrance High Alumni Association, which was organized in 1918, now boasts a membership of about 400. Officers for the current year are Leonard Babcock, president; Kathryn Wheaton Farmer, vice-president; Katharine Burmaster, secretary; and Earl Tavan, treasurer.

Last Tribute of Friends Is Paid to Towne

Prominent Lomita Resident Passed Away Saturday After Long Illness

Funeral services for George Towne, for 20 years a resident of the harbor district, who passed away Saturday morning at 2 o'clock at his home at 3005 Rose street, Lomita, were held at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon at Stone & Myers chapel, Torrance. The services were attended by the largest number of friends and neighbors ever to have assembled here on such an occasion. Services at the chapel were conducted by Rev. E. E. Clark of Eagle Rock, former pastor of the Community Presbyterian church in Lomita, with the Lomita Masonic lodge in charge of rites at the grave. Interment was made at Compton.

Mr. Towne was born April 19, 1872, at Fairbury, Illinois. He came to California in 1894 and engaged in farming in this district. In 1899 he married Lulu Bell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Bell, former residents of Iowa. He is survived by his wife, one daughter, Eva Belle Gamby, one son, Amos Charles, a sister, Mrs. Alfred Belleu of Watts, and a brother, Amos Towne, of Long Beach.

Mr. Towne had been ill for several months, as the result of a stroke, and had been compelled to give up his post as road superintendent in the county road department, which work he had carried on for a number of years. He was prominent in the Masonic order, a member of Lomita lodge No. 644, and one of those who helped to organize the Torrance lodge No. 447 some years ago. He was also a member of Wilmington Knights of Pythias, San Pedro Lodge No. 366 B. P. O. E., San Pedro Eastern Star chapter and Triple City lodge No. 333, I. O. O. F., of Lomita.

His high standing in the community and in the harbor district, where he had lived and labored for more than 20 years, was attested by the large gathering to attend the last rites in his honor.

Fire Prevention Film to Be Shown

An illustrated talk on forestry and fire prevention, to be followed by a motion picture film, taken in the national forests, showing the disastrous effects of fire, will be given under the auspices of the Bert S. Crossland Post and American Legion Auxiliary Monday night, June 13, at 8:30 o'clock, at the Torrance high school auditorium.

J. R. Hodgson, forest ranger, will be in charge of the program which is open to the public and free to all. Commander L. H. Delinger, who is in charge locally of the arrangements, hopes that all Torrance citizens will avail themselves of this opportunity to see the work of the fire crews and to note the need of carelessness in traveling through our mountain and forest lands.

Taxpayers League Meeting June 20

A meeting of the Taxpayers League has been called for June 20 at the Torrance high school auditorium, when Rev. Bob Shuler and Charles J. Colden will be the speakers. A business meeting will follow the speaking program.