

### Work Projects In Torrance Total \$41,252

R. F. C. Funds Already Expended Here Almost \$10,000

With a serious situation at hand regarding work relief for thousands of indigent men in the county, the status of the various work projects undertaken under the R. F. C. program in the Torrance area was revealed today by a report submitted this week to the board of supervisors.

A total of \$868,194 has been expended to date on the hundreds of projects in the county, including road jobs, flood control projects and special work jobs. Estimated total cost of the projects was given as \$2,913,929, and the cost to complete now being \$2,219,507.

Up to April 1, Torrance had received in money expended on R. F. C. projects, a total of \$9956, with a balance to be expended for their completion of \$31,316, or \$41,252 in all. Lomita had received \$15,231, with a balance to be expended of \$10,369. Palms Verdes had received \$1576, balance to come \$1624. Harbor City, \$256, balance \$6144. Gardena, \$1826, balance \$1100.

### Klan Elects New Officers On Apr. 20

New officers were elected and installed at the meeting of the Triple City Ku Klux Klan, held Thursday evening, April 20, at the Klan headquarters, 1741 Border avenue.

A very inspiring meeting is reported, with a special supper served at the close of business. The Klaviers, Klan military unit, attended.

Tonight a big program has been arranged with supper to follow. Klaviers from all over the county will send their representatives and all Kluxers are invited to attend. Important information will be imparted at this meeting. Honorary cards are being issued to ex-Klansmen, some of whom are being accepted.

A big initiation and state meeting will be held in Torrance at an early date, according to L. M. Drexler, Sr., exalted cypselos and president of Klan No. 113.

### NIGHT PROWLERS LOOT BOULEVARD RESTAURANT

Merchandise amounting to about \$250 was stolen from the Roll-Inn Cafe, operated by J. W. Fakoner, 2253 Redondo-Wilmington boulevard, Friday night. The loot included a \$175 radio, electric clock, heater, cigarettes and other articles. Entrance was gained by forcing a rear door.

NOT CAPTAIN KIDD but "CAPTAIN KITTY" one of the jolly pirates who'll welcome you to "Neptune's Electrical Extravaganza" Saturday, May 6 at Long Beach



### Notes From Washington

By Charles J. Colden Congressman, 17th District

The House had a real scrap over the Farm Loan Relief Bill. As on the previous measures submitted by the President the rule was adopted preventing the offering of amendments. The Republican leaders attacked this rule as a "gag rule." The Democratic leaders admitted the charge of the Republicans and retorted that they had learned all they knew about "gag rules" from sitting at the feet of the Republicans such as Joseph Cannon and others known for their arbitrary rulings.

When the agricultural bill was before the House which proposes to fix and stabilize the prices of agricultural products, an amendment was offered including peanuts in this bill. The Republican membership, or a part of them at least, saw an opportunity of disparaging the bill and voted for this peanut amendment. Of course, the Republicans representing strictly farming districts were as eager for agricultural relief as the Democrats, but this peanut amendment carried by one vote. When it reached the Senate, peanuts were stricken out. So many of the measures are governed by a special rule and must be accepted as is.

It is easy to see that in a body of 435, representing such a large area of diversified interests, that it is difficult to carry a measure through the House unless you restrict the amendments. And this restriction is usually referred to as the "gag rule." It has been used frequently in the past by the Republicans when they were in control in order to protect their measures from the pestiferous Democrats. Now that the Democrats are in control and earnestly desire to pass the president's measures as submitted by him, the Democrats are using the "gag rule" to protect their bills from the pestiferous Republicans and some rebellious Democrats.

If I could have amended the farm relief bill I would have submitted a reduction of the total amount to be loaned on one farm. As the House passed the bill, it permits a loan of \$50,000. My theory is that such loans should be limited to \$10,000. The \$50,000 loan encourages commercial farming, the overproduction of grain and severe competition with the smaller farmer. If the loans were restricted to \$10,000 the \$50,000 loan would accommodate five farms instead of one. It would aid the farmer who is establishing a home and give the average man a better opportunity. After all, the most important feature of the farm loan relief bill is the preservation of the American home and five homes with \$10,000 loans, or ten homes with \$5,000 loans than do preserve one \$50,000 farm home. The same applies to the home relief bill.

But if I had the opportunity to submit my amendment the same opportunity would prevail for the other 434 members and when the bill got through, President Roosevelt would be unable to recognize his own creation.

One reason postage is so high and there is such a large deficit in the postal department, is because of air mail and ship subsidies. Some of the ship subsidies read like a racket. Thousands of dollars are paid in some instances for the carrying of an insignificant amount of mail. In many instances ship subsidies are probably justified, but in some they are a public scandal.

Another big leak in the postal department is the high prices paid for leases. An example is cited from Chicago, where a lease net the owner of the building an annual income of 25 per cent of the investment. This is another example of private profit at public expense. It is undoubtedly true that many abuses and many extravaganzas have grown up in the postal department and that the whole department needs an overhauling. Since the employees have not only been cut 15 per cent, but the service to the public has been curtailed, it seems to be the part of good business to use the ax on the superfluous expenses of the department.

I hear some good news in the offing for the over-taxed stamp buyers. It is reported that Postmaster General Farley is planning a return to the old time two-cent postage. The first move will be to permit the use of two-cent stamps for local use, that is, any letter dropped in the post office will be delivered in the territory of the same office for two cents. If this proves successful and the results are satisfactory, the two-cent rate will be further applied.

Somebody is always picking on the poor congressman. Every day one reads in the papers about extravagant salaries, clerical hire, mileage and stationery. To tell the truth, it is rather a soft job for a number of the congressmen. It is also true that some congressmen make a sacrifice in order to serve their district and their country. But the average member considers it an attractive position and is exercising his ingenuity to hold it. He gets somewhat exasperated at the continual thrusts at him and his salary and his expense account and once in awhile he gets up on the floor and fumes at his critics.

At the present time a congressman receives a salary of \$8,500 per year. He is allowed \$4,250 for clerk hire. He is allowed 15 cents per mile once each session for his traveling expenses. He is also allowed \$90.00 for his stationery. Many salaries in the city and

the county of Los Angeles and the state of California exceed that of a member of Congress. Newspaper columnists seem to get a greater enjoyment out of heckling a congressman than the bloated tax-eaters at home.

As to clerk hire, in the early days there was no provision whatever, but as the volume of correspondence increased and the demands upon a member became greater it was found necessary to supply a congressman with clerical help. No member of the House or Senate can personally answer all the requests made to his office. The office help of congressmen are among the hardest worked employees of Washington.

Much has been said about mileage. To a California, approximately \$900.00 is a fat sum. The government allows 15 cents a mile, while the expense to the individual member is approximately five cents a mile. This mileage is allowed once for each session. But California is not a fair example of the use of this mileage. Californians rarely get to return home during a session because of the long distance and time required.

The large majority of the members live in the Eastern States and the Middle West. The member in Washington from Tennessee or Illinois, for example, counts that his mileage pays for three trips during the session. It is presumed that he has some matters at home that require his attention and his mileage allowance permits him to go home twice during the session, which usually extend from three to nine months' time. The members from Pennsylvania and near-by states, for instance, return home much oftener, and their mileage allowance is not sufficient to pay for their traveling expenses. So the mileage of a member of the House should be considered from a standpoint of all the members and not from the remote states like California.

The mileage allowance of a member of the House and Senate is not near as large in proportion as the allowance for travel extended to many officials in particular city and county. Local officials have a car and some a chauffeur at public expense. Frequently, the city franchises granted provide free transportation on the street railways and suburban railways and every day in the year.

One of the members from a middle-western state stated on the platform during his campaign that he favored a reduction of the salaries of the congressmen to \$2500 a year. He lived in a small town and was undoubtedly sincere in his declarations. He was elected to Congress, and when he came to Washington he found living conditions far different from what they were at home. He was greatly disturbed and loudly denounced his milk man, because he was obliged to pay 22 cents a quart for milk at Washington and that he never paid over five cents a quart before in his life. He also denounced the apartment house owners because he was obliged to pay about five times as much for an apartment as he paid at home. So here was one of the drastic critics of congressmen who became a sudden convert to his fat salary when he arrived in Washington.

President Roosevelt in his Tennessee program is giving city planning a national scope. I remember my first experience in city planning in Los Angeles in 1913, 20 years ago. It was a new subject at that time, and many people looked upon it as one of those fads that would soon pass from public notice. But the idea grew. There were but a faithful few interested in the movement at that time and among them was quite a young man by the name of G. Gordon Whitnall. Because of the persistence of the enthusiastic Whitnall and others of a small group, after seven long years of battling, city planning was recognized in Los Angeles and an official commission was provided to make it effective in the municipality. At a later date the county enlarged on the idea of city planning and applied the same principles over the vast area of Los Angeles county.

Now, President Roosevelt is applying the same principles to a national program, of which the Tennessee river basin is an illustration. The president states that this is an experiment. If it is successful it will be applied to other basins until the whole nation is brought into and becomes a part of this new program. What a marvelous opportunity awaits the valleys of California if the Tennessee program proves a success! This great plan of development includes flood-control, reforestation, soil erosion and revolves around the development of power and fertilizer at Muscle Shoals. The development of this power should lighten the burdens and in-

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### Columbia Man In Race For School Board

Fellow Workers At Torrance Mill Supporting Election of H. J. O'Neill

"O'Neill for the New Deal" is the slogan of his co-workers at the Columbia Steel Company in Torrance, who are advocating the election of H. J. O'Neill to membership on the Los Angeles city board of education at the primary, May 2. Mr. O'Neill has been employed in the heat treating department of the local steel mills for the past five years.

In a statement to the Herald this week, Thomas F. Powers, fellow worker of Mr. O'Neill's at the steel mill, says, "Mr. O'Neill believes in repealing the tenure act as under that law if a teacher holds a position three years she cannot be dismissed, with the result we have 300 extra teachers who are saddled on the taxpayers. He does not believe in class legislation. If you pension one, pension all. He believes our schools should be a safe place for our children. He does not believe in sending carpenters to inspect steel or a steel worker to inspect concrete, and would hold contractors and inspectors responsible for all work."

"Mr. O'Neill is a well-known steel worker and holds a responsible position with the Columbia Steel Company in Torrance and is given a big boost by his fellow workmen. Signed, Thos. F. Powers."

### State Picnics

ILLINOIS. The Illinois picnic is set for Saturday, April 29, in Sycamore Grove Park, Los Angeles, with President Henry J. Brubaker presiding.

Increased the comforts of all those who live within its reach. It means less backaches for the boy who saws the wood, pumps the water and turns the grindstone. It means relief from drudgery of the mother and the wife of the home when she can harness electrical power to the broom, to the iron, the washboard, the churn, which has exacted such great toll from her hours in the past. Cheap electricity is the greatest boon of the age, and the success of the government project at Muscle Shoals will mean much to the millions who perform the drudgeries of life. And when I think of Muscle Shoals I always am reminded of B. B. Arthur of 109th street, its enthusiastic advocate, and also of O. K. Buck, a militant salesman of the benefits of the flowing power of our rivers and streams.

"I hung away my overcoat for a day and then dragged it right out again. And I never saw a more dismal Easter. It rained all day. Not a flower or a new hat on parade."

### Letters to the Editor

A SECOND CATASTROPHE IMPENDS

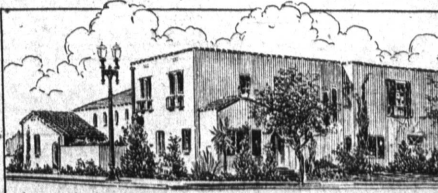
Because the Torrance teachers realize that an informed public is an interested public, they plan to publish from week to week facts relating to the educational problems facing the people of California at present. These problems are of tremendous immediate concern, for action taken now will be of lasting consequence for many years to come. Gertrude Mallory, president of the Los Angeles High School Teachers' Association, suggests in an article in the Los Angeles School Journal, some of the disastrous consequences of drastic reductions in school budgets. She writes:

"While every move is being made since the earthquake to secure Class A construction of buildings, there is, on the other hand, every move being made for Class C instruction. Class A construction of buildings takes care of your child's physical body. But have you thought that your child needs Class A instruction for his mental, moral and spiritual being? Are you forgetting that he has a mind to be protected? If you are, it is well that you be reminded that Class A instruction costs a fair and a higher price than Class C instruction."

"If you, Mr. Citizen Father and Mrs. Citizen Mother, want Class A instruction for your child, you must throw your influence against further reduction in school costs. (Remember the schools of California have already by cuts saved you in two years approximately \$50,000,000. Has any other unit of our governmental society done that much?) You must protect against further shortening of the school term if you do not wish your child turned out, probably to run the streets; you should protest further decreases in salaries, if you desire competent teachers to guide your child in proper ways of thinking. (The teacher has had his share in the 'cutting of salary' game, and don't be misled.) Mr. Citizen Father, Mrs. Citizen Mother, which do you want for your child, Class C, poor opportunities in school, or Class A, first class instruction? You are going to have one or the other—what shall it be?"

Fathers and all men of the community are urged to attend the meeting at the gymnasium Friday night, April 28, at 7:30 o'clock, the climax of the Public Schools' Week observance. The affiliated teacher organizations of Los Angeles are sending one of their very best speakers to Torrance, G. B. Couch, state chairman of the California Teachers' Association. His subject, "Inroads of Legislation on Education," will give his audience an opportunity to learn the details of an impending catastrophe to the schools, as disastrous as the crashing of buildings, Class C instruction. (Signed) The High School Publicity Committee.

BOONVILLE, Ind. (U.P.)—Several boxes of gold and one box of silver dollars were brought into the bank here during the drive against gold hoarding. Some of the double-eagles had turned a greenish color.



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