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CHAMBER ELECTION DUE SOON; ENDORSE INDUSTRIAL ZONING

Directors Ask City to Improve Cabrillo Avenue and Move Unightly City Dump; Would Strengthen Zoning Law

By L. J. GILMEISTER, Secretary

At the regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, held Monday, a nominating committee was appointed, consisting of four members who, with President Bert W. Lanz as ex-officio member, are to select six candidates for the three directorships which will expire on June 30 of this year. These candidates are to be voted on by the chamber members on the first Monday in June. Directors whose terms expire June 30 are Bert W. Lanz, Fred Isaacs and Donald Findley.

Under the existing civil code provisions there is no place where an industry can locate in the state of California where it can absolutely be assured of its right to operate without possible interference through the exercise of this code right by parties who may through personal feeling or competitive reasons desire to create trouble or expense to such industry. There is a statewide movement to secure adoption of an industrial zoning code which will protect industries already established in properly zoned areas by precluding the filing of unwarranted attacks by persons through the motives above delineated. In support of this proposed amendment the board of directors adopted a resolution urging the members of our state legislature to sponsor this bill when presented at the next session.

Cabrillo Avenue
In behalf of property owners of frontage on Cabrillo avenue who have asked the Torrance Chamber of Commerce to initiate steps toward the improvement of that thoroughfare by requesting the Torrance city council to determine the possibility of the city's undertaking this improvement, a communication was ordered to be transmitted to the Torrance city council urging their consideration of this matter.

City Dump
The chamber directorate also gave consideration to repeated comments concerning the unsightly appearance of the present site of the city yard and dump at the corner of Western avenue and El Prado, one of the gateways to our city, and heavily traveled. With the improvement of Western avenue this condition will be made more conspicuous. A communication was ordered prepared and transmitted to our city council, urging the removal of the city dump and yard to some other site.

Consolidations
The proposed reduction of the number of counties in the state to five was discussed. Tremendous savings, it is stated, will be possible by this change. The matter being one of great importance and requiring exhaustive study is having the consideration of all Chambers of Commerce and other civic groups.

Endorse Sewer Loan
In behalf of a request from officials of the Los Angeles county sanitation districts the chamber directorate ordered the transmittal of a request to state and federal officials that they assist in securing the approval of the application of our county sanitation districts for a grant of \$810,000 to be used in the completion of the sanitary sewer system and ocean outfall. Similar action was taken by the board of directors in support of Los Angeles county's endeavor to secure an equitable portion of the state's participation in the \$400,000,000 federal highway program.

More Orchestra Players Wanted

A set of drums and a bass viol are at the disposal of anyone who would be interested in playing with the Torrance evening high school orchestra, according to F. W. Hadler, director. These instruments are furnished by the evening school.

The class meets every Wednesday night from 7 to 9 o'clock. Other orchestral instruments are welcome including brass, woodwind and strings.

The orchestra is practicing only classic music and is preparing for concerts in public and over radio and therefore prepares its members to be high grade orchestra players. All instructions are absolutely free and it is the best way to become a real musician.

B. C. Higginson, Santa Fe Agent, Dies Suddenly

Beloved Citizen Passes At the Santa Fe Hospital Tuesday Evening

Bertram C. Higginson, Santa Fe station agent in Torrance for the past seven years, passed away suddenly Tuesday evening at 8:30 o'clock at the Santa Fe Hospital in Los Angeles, following a heart attack.

Mr. Higginson has been in declining health for several years and it was only through his strong determination and cheerful disposition that he was able to carry on his work unflinchingly to the end. He left his family well provided for. The news of his sudden passing came as a shock to his wide circle of friends in Torrance, where he resided at 1626 Annapolis avenue. He was born at Davenport, Iowa, in 1879.

Besides his widow, the deceased leaves two sons, Charles and Roy, of Los Angeles. The remains were shipped to Riverside, California, where burial will take place.

Russell Acquitted of Cruelty Charge

A jury of 12 women found that Russell, 1745 Date street, not guilty of the charge of cruelty to animals in a trial held last Friday in the Lomita township justice court. Russell was accused of having beaten a dog belonging to Henry Grubb to death with a club.

Attorney P. G. Briney, formerly of Torrance, appeared for the defendant, and Deputy District Attorney Edwin Myers prosecuted. Witnesses for the defense were Russell's wife, Mrs. Tommie Russell, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Nancy Dohms, and his son, Robert Russell. Witnesses for the state were Gerald Grubb and his playmate, Dean Barkdull, who witnessed the affair; Guy K. Claire and Mrs. Henry Grubb. The club and a picture of the dog were introduced as evidence.

Fred Arena Carries Secret of Murderous Assault to the Grave

Mystery surrounding the death of Fred Arena, 36, Torrance, Columbia Steel worker, was somewhat clarified Tuesday at an inquest held by Coroner Frank Nance, at the Hall of Justice in Los Angeles.

Arena, who was severely beaten by two men with whom he was riding from Torrance to Long Beach last January 28, was sent to the county jail from Torrance police court April 16 and held for disturbance of the peace.

Last Friday morning Arena died in the county general hospital. Whatever he knew about who his assailants might have been last January he took with him in death, for he steadfastly refused to divulge any information to jail or hospital attendants, even when he became seriously ill at the jail and was ordered removed to the prison ward of the county hospital.

Friends of Arena were puzzled by the report of the general hospital, which stated Arena had died of acute laryngitis and bronchial pneumonia. Coroner Frank Nance sent an inquest for Tuesday.

The true cause of Arena's death was revealed by the report of the autopsy surgeon as "multiple fractures of the skull, and subdural abscess."

Following Arena's death, investigation was made by deputy sheriff and revealed that at a fight in a Torrance cafe the evening of April 9 Arena was struck on the head three times with a beer mug. It was this fight which caused Arena's arrest by Torrance police, and his plea of not guilty to the charges preferred against him. After Torrance police had had Arena in custody for about a week, he was brought to the county jail, from whence he was sent to the hospital.

The jury at the inquest Tuesday found that Arena's death was the result of a homicide, but was unable to decide whether the fatal blows were received January 23 or at the fight in the Torrance cafe last April.

Arena's body was sent to San Jose for burial.

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Latest Klusman Move To Buy Water Co. Is Shelved By Council

An Editorial

Efforts of Councilman W. T. Klusman to have the city throw overboard its opportunity to save taxpayers \$100,000 in the construction of its new municipal water system by cancelling its application for a federal grant, and to forfeit a further annual saving of approximately \$3000 a year in interest charges by selling the water bonds at private sale instead of attempting to secure a federal loan at a lower rate of interest, were properly frowned upon by other members of the Torrance city council Tuesday night.

Klusman proposed that the city withdraw its application with the Public Works Administration, sell the water bonds at private sale, and buy the present system of the Torrance Water, Light & Power Company. He offered as his excuse for such a drastic and costly move that by so doing the city could put men to work improving the present water system and lower the water rate to consumers. One would be more inclined to accept the sincerity of Klusman's purpose, if he had not been so instrumental while mayor in delaying action of the PWA application while it was in the hands of the Los Angeles advisory board. And also if he had not proposed several months ago that the city offer a much larger sum to the water company for its system than a recognized firm of competent engineers employed by the city would have offered.

However, the Klusman proposal was quite properly rejected by other members of the city council. Mayor Ludlow stated that Congress was expected to appropriate additional funds for the PWA before its adjournment in June, and expressed the opinion that Torrance would have a good chance of securing its allotment of this new appropriation. He explained that the Torrance application had successfully passed the "hardest part" of its route, evidently referring to the opposition which developed in the Los Angeles PWA advisory board, whose approval was secured only after considerable "pressure" had been brought to bear. Mayor Ludlow stated that as the city had waited this long, it would certainly be well worth while to wait until June, before giving up the opportunity of securing the 30 per cent federal grant and lower interest rate on the loan.

City Engineer Leonard also referred to the fact that of the \$3,300,000 PWA fund originally appropriated by Congress, only about \$1,100,000,000 had been spent. He expressed the opinion that in view of these facts, that it might not be necessary to wait for Congress to appropriate additional funds before the Torrance application would be approved in Washington. Leonard also referred to the recent approval of an application for a water system at San Clemente, which application was filed long after the one filed by Torrance. San Clemente is the home town of Hamilton H. Cotton, chairman of the PWA advisory board in Los Angeles.

As Mayor Ludlow and City Engineer Leonard have been much closer to the water project than any other city officials, their advice was quite properly accepted by Councilmen Hitchcock, Stanger and Tolson. Mayor Ludlow stated after the meeting that he would continue to push the water project, and expressed the opinion that eventually the Torrance application would be approved. With such tremendous savings to taxpayers and water consumers in sight, it would seem the height of folly to withdraw the PWA application at this time.

Democrats Continue To Gain In Registration In County

Democrats gained another 1344 in strength of the party among registered voters of the county for the week ending last Friday night, according to figures compiled from reports today by W. M. Kerr, registrar of voters.

Republicans, on the other hand, lost 521 from their party strength. Democrats jumped from 533,428 on April 27 to 534,772 on May 4. Republicans dropped from 560,176 on April 27 to 559,655 on May 4.

Difference in strength between the two parties dropped to 24,882 with the May 4 report. One week prior the Republican majority was 28,240.

The reason for this changing registration is credited by political observers to the candidacy of Upton Sinclair, who is a candidate for governor of California on the Democratic ticket. His name will not appear on the Republican ticket at the August primaries, it was pointed out, and persons who want to vote for Sinclair therefore are registering as Democrats.

Sinclair, an outspoken Socialist, also is expected to run on the Socialist ticket. However, the total Socialist party registration in the county is observed to be decreasing instead of gaining. On April 27, there were 6720 Socialists registered, on May 4 this total had dropped to 6646.

Strangely enough the prohibitionist total is also going down. So is the "declines to state" classification. The same holds true for the Liberty party. The new Progressive party is the only party besides the Democrats that is gaining. The answer, observers say, is Sinclair's candidacy on the Democratic ticket.

Civil Service Names Rous Chairman

Captains of Fire and Police Made Chiefs Again

At a meeting this week of the newly appointed civil service commission for the Torrance police and fire departments, Irvin C. Rous was elected chairman and L. O. Stevens, assistant city clerk, was named secretary. Chairman Rous reported to the city council Tuesday that the commission was studying examination forms now being used at Huntington Park and planned to hold the first civil service examinations in Torrance in about 30 days.

Chief of Police G. M. Calder and Fire Chief A. D. Stevenson, who two weeks ago were "demoted" to the rank of captain in order to bring them within the scope of the new civil service regulations, were "promoted" again to the rank of chief by the city council Tuesday night on motion of Councilman Stanger.

As the initiative ordinance recently approved by the electorate does not include part-time employees of the police and fire department, the city council adopted at its first reading Tuesday an emergency ordinance which will put under civil service regulations time employees who may be given full-time work.

Around the Council Table

Authority to purchase a camera with flashlight equipment at a price not to exceed \$65 was given the police department. Councilman Stanger explained that the camera was needed to secure court evidence in the prosecution of law violations. Heretofore it has been necessary to send to the sheriff's department in Los Angeles, and in many cases before this could be done, the evidence had disappeared. Councilman Stanger also stated that it would be necessary to take pictures of vacant lots on which weeds were allowed to grow before such cases could be tried in court.

Councilman Tolson reported that he was working on a group of rules and regulations for the municipal park, which would be submitted at the next meeting. Authority was also given for the installation of lights at the park.

Permit to construct a rifle range within the city limits was denied, upon advice of the police department.

A resolution was submitted by J. C. Smith asking that the council endorse pending state legislation to strengthen the industrial zoning laws so that industries which locate in industrial areas will not be harassed by complaints from residents who later build dwellings in the vicinity. The matter was referred to the city attorney for recommendation.

Councilmen Hitchcock, Stanger and Tolson and City Attorney Rippey recited many exciting experiences encountered on their recent trip to Hoover Dam and the Parker Dam site. Hitchcock presented Mayor Ludlow with a bottle of Colorado river water taken at the site of the Metropolitan Water district aqueduct intake.

Mayor Ludlow reminded committee chairman that it was time they were working on their department budgets. He also suggested that preliminary work on the preparation of the building ordinance to conform to the new state law be started.

Funeral Services For Mrs. Mary Vaz

Funeral services will be conducted tomorrow morning at 9:30 o'clock at the Torrance Catholic church for Mrs. Mary Vaz, age 49, of Carson ranch, who passed away Monday at Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital. Interment will be at the Calvary cemetery. She is survived by her husband, Joseph Vaz.

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NATIONAL HOSPITAL DAY WILL BE OBSERVED NEXT SATURDAY

Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial Hospital Will Keep Open House; Local Institution Opened to the Public Nine Years Ago, On May 9, 1925

(Pictures on Page 5-A)
All Torrance is invited to visit the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital next Saturday, May 12, in observance of National Hospital Day. Superintendent Esther Z. Maxwell and her corps of nurses will be on duty all day to receive the guests and show them around in this admirable local institution.

Long Night's Battle Saves Life of Lad

Care and maintenance of patients at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital is of the highest type. Nurses are untiring in their efforts to be helpful, and many times do more than they are required to do in handling difficult cases.

Just as an illustration of the unselfish devotion of these young women, who go about their daily duties patiently, helpfully, and with no thought of praise or public commendation, we take a case which was recently handled here.

One night about a month ago a little boy, four and a half years old, was brought in suffering from double pneumonia. The little boy was blue, breath came in painful gasps. There was a sound like froth in the lungs. Pulse beat high for a moment then died away. Death seemed a matter of hours, even moments, when the child was placed on a bed in a private room. But death has been faced and routed before by gallant, determined women.

Four nurses gathered round the little form. An oxygen tent was placed over the bed. All night long these four nurses stood by, talking, pulse, feeding, the oxygen, warming the little body, doing the things that needed to be done, watching every flutter of the heart, every breath of the little lungs fighting so desperately for air.

Morning came. The harsh, painful gasping ceased and gave place to normal breathing. The heart-beats steadied. Cold, clammy blueness gave way to warm, ruddy color in body, lips and fingertips. The little lad was sleeping, quietly, definitely on the mend though not entirely out of danger.

Nine o'clock comes. The doctor who had put the child in the nurses' hands, and who had gone home after hours of battling, with the words, "Well, it's up to you, I've done everything I can do," walked in and went about visiting his other patients.

The nurses waited, happily anxious to spring their surprise, when he should come to the child's room. "Well, what time did he go," he finally said. "Why, he's getting along fine," said they in chorus and led the way to the room. The doctor stopped at the door and looked in. "Hello, doc," piped a hoarse little voice, and the physician almost fainted.

Today the little boy is alive, and well, and doing fine. All because four nurses wouldn't give up, wouldn't let him die.

And this is only one incident out of many, where sheer determination and scientific knowledge have won in battles with disease and death.

Council Starts Drive to Collect Business Licenses

Claims for unpaid business licenses for periods previous to January 1, 1934, were ordered cancelled by the Torrance city council Tuesday night, but business firms were warned that court actions will be instituted against any business house which does not pay its license for the current and future years. The license fee is \$12 per year, payable quarterly.

There is approximately \$1700 now outstanding in delinquent business licenses, about \$700 of which will be wiped out by reason of the action of the council in cancelling all delinquencies for periods prior to January 1. Mayor Ludlow stated that payrolls in local industrial plants are much better than they have been for several years, and other members of the council concurred with him in the opinion that business firms should now be in a better position to pay their licenses. Police department was given instructions to institute court actions if necessary to collect licenses.

Torrance Seniors Get Scholarships

Joy Fossum and Alice Burger, both life members of the Scholarship Society Federation, having been eligible to that honored group for six semesters, have been awarded a two-year scholarship each to Whittier College. The other two life members among the graduating class, although eligible for this award, did not desire to go on to college.