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## PAY INCREASE WILL BENEFIT HUNDREDS OF P. E. EMPLOYEES

Substantial Portion of \$225,000 Monthly Payroll Advance Will Come to Torrance Workmen; Another Increase Due January 1

Larger pay checks will be received by nearly 400 employees of the Pacific Electric Railway shops in Torrance as the result of another advance in pay for employees of the company, retroactive to July 1, announced this week by D. W. Pontius, president of the company. While definite figures as to the exact amount which will be added to the local payroll have not as yet been received by officials of the Torrance shops, it is known that a substantial portion of the \$225,000 monthly payroll increase will be disbursed in Torrance.

More, Due January 1  
The pay increase amounts to 2 1/2 per cent, on top of a 5 per cent increase granted about a year ago when the local shops were transferred to the company's ownership.

Mr. Pontius said: "At the same time it was announced that another 2 1/2 per cent increase in pay will become effective January 1, 1935, making a total of 7 1/2 per cent within a year and a total of 10 per cent within 18 months. Increases for July 1 will cover all departments excepting officers of the company. Mr. Pontius stated that the increases are made with a view to co-operating with the government in the national recovery program.

Notices sent to all employees this week read:

"Increase in compensation of employees will be made as follows: To employees in train service: One-half of the 5 per cent reduction effective January 1, 1932, will be restored effective July 1, 1934. The remaining one-half of such reduction will be restored effective January 1, 1935.

"To all other employees, except certain employees of maintenance of way, mechanical and store department mentioned in following paragraph: restoration of one-half of their most recent 5 per cent reduction will be made effective July 1, 1934. Restoration of the remaining one-half of their most recent 5 per cent reduction will be made effective January 1, 1935.

Rules Explained  
Where rates of pay of certain employees in maintenance of way, mechanical and store departments were increased either on October 1, 1933, or May 1, 1934, as a result of the adoption of the code of fair pay for the transit industry, such increases will be applied as a part of this restoration of wages.

"Each employee will be advised by head of department in which employed, within a few days, as to exactly how this restoration affects them.

"Officers of the company are not included in this wage adjustment."

Information on Loans to Industry  
Secretary L. J. Gilmeister of the Chamber of Commerce announces that printed information on federal loans to industry and commercial enterprises, as authorized at the last session of Congress, is available at his office. All firms who are interested may call and look it over or obtain copies.

## Registrations Close July 19 For Primary

Voters Must Get On Lists By Midnight Next Thursday

If you would vote at the coming August 28 primary—register. That was the admonition to voters today, with approximately one week left to become eligible to vote for party candidates, in the event that the voter has moved, or desires to change his party affiliation.

Deputies will accept registrations until midnight of next Thursday, July 19, according to W. M. Kerr, county registrar of voters, and the total for the county is expected to pass the 1,300,000 mark when the registrations all are totaled up.

Voters this year have their choice of eight political parties, three more than one year ago. The bond issue was voted upon, registration is hiked between the two old major parties, Democrats and Republicans, however, none of the other six parties having more than approximately 6000 votes each, and the communist party running last with but a few stragglers.

A voter must have resided in the state, for two years, in the county for 90 days and in the precinct for 40 days. One previously registered must re-register if he has not voted at either the primary or the general election in 1932. It also is necessary to re-register if the person has changed his address, no matter if he moved only next door, and remains in the same precinct.

## Materials Wanted To Provide Work For Local Women

Discussion of ways and means to provide material for sewing for women who are to be employed in Torrance under the SERA, occupied the attention of the city council on Tuesday night, which finally culminated in instructions to City Attorney Charles T. Hipps to contact those in charge of the Community Service fund to see if a certain amount of that fund might be used to start the work.

Under the SERA, according to City Engineer Frank Leonard, who is in charge for the city, about 25 women can be given employment providing material is furnished for sewing. A building, rent free, and machines are available. All that remains to be provided is a certain amount of cloth to start the work, which may be made at least partially self-sustaining by the sale of articles made by the women, the proceeds to be reinvested in material.

Appeals to service clubs, individuals, and community organizations have been made by Mr. Leonard, but this method is slow in taking effect as many of the groups must take up the matter in their regular sessions in order to appropriate the money.

In the meantime the women are idle and the wages that they might receive from SERA are not forthcoming.

All persons in Torrance who have any helpful suggestions are requested to get in touch with Mr. Leonard.

## HOUSING SHORTAGE CALLS FOR ACTION

Loss of Benefits From New Lead and Zinc Plant Feared If More Dwellings Are Not Constructed At Once. A Challenge to the Chamber of Commerce.

Unless definite steps are immediately taken to encourage the construction of several hundred additional dwelling units, this city will be faced with a serious housing shortage next fall, and the principal benefits to be derived from the erection of the new million dollar plant of the Hughes-Mitchell Process, Inc., will be lost to this city.

Already rental agencies are unable to find quarters for many families who wish to reside in Torrance. The new lead and zinc plant will employ a large number of engineers who will bring their families from Denver about January 1, when the new lead and zinc plant is scheduled to begin operations. From 200 to 400 other workmen will be recruited from local sources, many of whom will wish to reside in Torrance, which is the closest city to the new plant, located adjacent to the United Concrete Pipe Corporation property on Normandie avenue.

Torrance welcomes new industries, but little benefit will be realized if the employees of these new factories are unable to find homes in this city. The situation is critical and calls for prompt action. It offers a real challenge to the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, which body should be the first to start the campaign for the construction of new houses in Torrance.

There are many desirable vacant lots in the residential sections of Torrance which may be purchased at from \$200 to \$500, and real estate dealers report that they can secure plenty of desirable tenants now who will pay rentals for five-room houses which will bring fair returns on the investment. While, of course, the construction of new homes is much to be desired, it might be advisable in the present emergency to contact owners of houses in other localities where vacancies are numerous and suggest that they move these houses to Torrance.

## No Report On Water Assets Heard Tuesday

Consulting Engineers Not Ready With Information Required By Council

No report was forthcoming from Salisbury, Bradshaw & Taylor, consulting engineers, who are investigating the value of certain alleged assets of the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company, set up in their recent communication to the city council, when that body met in regular session Tuesday night.

Mayor Scott R. Ludlow reported to the council that Mr. Bradshaw had met with E. C. Nelson, president in Torrance of the water company, and had gone over the situation with him, but that he had not had time to prepare his report in the form desired for presenting to the council.

For that reason no action was taken on the water situation.

With the exception of routine matters, very little business was transacted at the Tuesday night session.

On motion of Councilman J. E. Hitchcock, who heads the street department committee, the council voted to appropriate \$2000 for purchase of material for a building and equipment to set up a municipal shop for the repair of city trucks and automobiles.

According to Mr. Hitchcock, important savings in repair bills can be made by having the work done by a mechanic employed by the city.

A fireproof building, probably of galvanized iron, is to be constructed on city property. Necessary equipment for handling heavy trucks and making the repairs will be purchased.

The appropriation was approved by a majority vote, Councilman W. T. Klusman voting in the negative.

## Teletype System May Be Placed In Co. Health Centers

Installation of teletypes in every county health center building, providing direct communication between the county health officer and the branches throughout the county, was under consideration today by Supervisor Gordon L. McDonough. The plan has been advanced as a means of using the \$100,000 installation placed in the \$13,000,000 General hospital, but "junked" without even a trial.

District health centers are located in San Fernando, Inglewood, Torrance, Compton, Pomona, Whittier and a half dozen other cities.

Practically all of the teletype machines are receivers only, which means that messages cannot be sent back to the head office. Nevertheless, installation of the machines would eliminate hundreds of long distance telephone calls each week with a considerable saving to the county.

## SIAMESE TWINS

Frank Sharpe brought to the Herald office Tuesday a vegetable curiously in the shape of a Siamese twin cucumber. The freak of nature came from the garden of L. W. Dunn, residing on 185th street. Both cucumbers are large and well shaped, but are joined together for the whole of their length.

## TENTATIVE BUDGET WILL NOT RAISE TORRANCE TAX RATE

Lower Valuations and Savings Made By City Council Will Result In Probable Reduction In Tax Bills For Property Owners Here

Although the assessed valuation of property in Torrance will probably be lower than the figure set last year, sufficient savings have been made by the city council in setting up the budget for 1934-35 that there will be no increase in the tax rate in this city.

The result of the combination of lower valuation and the same rate will be a lower tax bill for the property owner.

Figures released by City Clerk A. H. Bartlett, following the meeting Tuesday night when the budget was tentatively adopted, show that a total of \$129,000 in general taxes and \$16,187.00 for the 10-cent tax levy for parks, music and advertising, will be required. Additional income from the city's \$100,000 bond fund, estimated at \$153,201.00, will be available to offset the tax bill.

Valuation in tax district No. 1, which includes the original town of Torrance is \$7,468,115.00; valuation in tax district No. 2, including the annexed portions of the city is \$8,719,310.00, a total valuation of \$16,187,425. Taxation for the municipal bond fund in the original city of Torrance at six cents on \$100 will raise \$4480.87; taxation for all other purposes at 90 cents per \$100 on the total assessed valuation of both old and new portions of the city will raise \$145,656.00, which, plus the \$7575.00 miscellaneous income from other sources than property taxation will total the required amount of \$153,201.00.

Disbursements of this fund as set up in the budget are as follows: General government expense, \$16,785; protection of life and property which includes the police and fire departments, \$47,650; health and sanitation, \$5500; street department, including \$4500 for unemployment relief, \$31,500; park department, \$5000; municipal park, \$5000; recreation and playgrounds, \$1900.

For the Chamber of Commerce, an item of \$6000, is set up this year; street department equipment, \$3600; fire department equipment, \$2900; police department equipment, \$800; park department equipment, \$240; municipal park equipment, \$1000; Cedar avenue improvement, the fence required along the property of the General Petroleum Corporation as a consideration for permission to open that avenue through its property; \$9000; office equipment, \$500; municipal shop, for the maintenance and repair of city-owned cars, trucks and machinery, \$2000; first aid, \$500; fire house No. 2 (Walteria), \$650; repairs to fire truck, \$500; and unallocated, \$10,186.

At the meeting of the city council Tuesday night the above figures were adopted as a tentative budget and are subject to revision before the budget is finally adopted prior to September 1 when the tax rate must be fixed.

A motion by Councilman W. T. Klusman to substitute \$500 for the \$6000 item set up for the Chamber of Commerce was lost for the want of a second.

## Grand Theft Case Is Dismissed Here

H. Newman, arrested two weeks ago on complaint of J. W. Venable of Walteria, on a charge of grand theft involving a quantity of hay, was brought into the Lomita township justice court for preliminary hearing, where the case against Newman was dismissed so far as the Lomita court is concerned.

It appeared through the testimony of Fred V. Wolfe, deputy sheriff attached to the farm detail, that a number of charges, including the one under the court's consideration, on similar offenses involving grand theft, had been filed in the municipal court in Los Angeles, 18 in all. For this reason Judge Esther I. Dennis dismissed the proceedings, and prosecution will be handled through the municipal court.

## SURE-FIRE

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## Where President Roosevelt Will Vacation



This army air corps photo shows an aerial view of the beach at Waikiki, showing Diamond Head in the background. In the center is the Royal Hawaiian Hotel, \$4,000,000 hostelry on the beach, where President Roosevelt will live during his vacation.

## Military Air Service Officer Will Speak At C. of C. Meeting

What promises to be one of the most outstanding Torrance Chamber of Commerce membership meetings of the year will be held next Tuesday evening, July 17, at 7:30 o'clock in the Chamber of Commerce.

Speakers of prominence will discuss matters of interest and importance to every business man and every taxpayer.

Major Benedict, lecturer, traveler, and formerly prominently identified with our military air service, will give an address on "America Today and Tomorrow." He will touch upon general business conditions, and N. R. A. in its present and future relations and results.

Other speakers programmed for this meeting are Mr. E. E. East, chief engineer of the Automobile Club of Southern California, and Mr. William L. Pollard, chairman of the county-wide highway commission, both of whom will present different sides of the proposed centralized control of all highways by our state highway department. These speakers will be given ample time to present their respective arguments on this question of state-wide interest which affects every taxpayer in California.

All chamber members are especially urged to attend this meeting as it will be an unusual opportunity to hear officially discussed representative sides of a

## Liner Sailing Signalizes "Open Port"



To the accompaniment of honneded boats and the clicking muskets of the National Guard, the Panama Pacific liner Pennsylvania sailed out of San Francisco. Her departure signalized the opening of the port under the protection of national guardmen.