



Only Newspaper
Published In Torrance

Torrance Herald

Consolidated Edition of
Torrance Herald & Lomita News

One
Section
8 Pages
This Issue

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1934

PER COPY 5c

SECOND EFFORT TO ATTRACT BOND BIDDERS UNSUCCESSFUL

City Council Will Ask Extension of Time From Water Company Officials to Complete the Deal For Purchase; Some Hopes of Interesting Private Capital

Continued inactivity in the municipal bond market resulted in no bids being presented to the city council at its meeting held Tuesday night, called for the purpose of considering such offers in response to the advertisement for the sale of bonds authorized at the regular meeting held a week ago.

Not only were no offers received but no representatives of bond houses were present to discuss the matter, and unless some developments materialize within a short time, it is probable that matters will be held in abeyance until the bond market shows some signs of returning activity.

Torrance was not alone in its unsuccessful efforts to dispose of municipal district water bonds, as was shown by reports from the city of Los Angeles which met with the same situation. An offering of \$2,000,000 of the 1930 issue of \$38,800,000 water bonds brought no bidders when the Los Angeles city council met Tuesday in Los Angeles. Water leagues have always been regarded as strong investments heretofore, and the only explanation of the reluctance of bidders to come into the market is the same as was expressed by bond buyers at the meeting of the Torrance city council on the occasion of the first call for bids.

The market was in excellent shape, according to Chief Engineer Van Norman of the bureau of water works and supply, when the board of water and power commissioners asked the Los Angeles city council to call for bids on August 30. A week later when the city council met Tuesday, the California municipal issues had dropped in value on the New York market, the reason being attributed to the nomination of Upton Sinclair as a Democratic candidate for governor.

In view of the existing conditions, the Torrance city council, after some discussion, authorized the city attorney, Charles T. Rippey, to notify the officials of the water company at Columbus, Ohio, of the state of affairs and ask an extension of time to complete the deal for the sale of the company's property here until a later date, September 24 as the date for the consummation of the contract, at which time, the council believed it would have been able to dispose of \$200,000 in bonds and have the cash to complete the deal.

Further efforts to dispose of the bonds on the open market through an advertisement are believed to be useless. Some hopes are entertained of interesting private capital, but they are slight.

Assistance from the federal government through a loan and grant for the purpose of constructing a new water system, was definitely disposed of by a letter from Washington officials, stating that the project did not meet with their approval because of paralleling an existing system. In reply to this letter, the city attorney is expected to file a protest.

Preparations Complete For First District Club Meeting Held Here

Preparations have been completed, by the combined clubs of Torrance and Hawthorne, National Business and Professional Women, for the district meeting which will be held Saturday afternoon and evening, September 22, at the Surf and Sand Club, Hermosa Beach.

The two clubs which are hostesses for the first time to the Los Angeles district, have been working for the past two months on arrangements, and expect to present an interesting program.

Sessions will begin at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon, with round table discussions, and general business and board meetings. The topic for the month will be research.

Dinner will be served at 6:30 o'clock. The speaker of the evening, R. A. Rust, candidate for United States senator in the August primary, will speak on "The Value of Research." Musical entertainment will be presented by Mrs. Norma Frutcher, president of the Hawthorne club, soprano soloist who was awarded first prize at the contest at the district convention in Pasadena in April. Robert Edmonds, Long Beach tenor; and Madame Teala Billini, concert pianist, member of the Torrance club.

Arrangements have been made. **TURN TO STORY 2**
Page 3

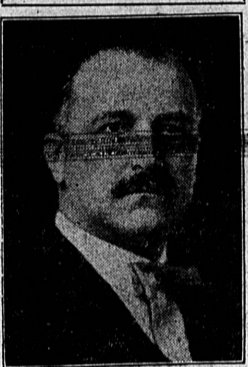
Torrance Couple Celebrate Wedding Anniversary Today

Mr. and Mrs. John Blackmore, 2409 Carson street, who have resided in Torrance a number of years, celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary by keeping open house for their friends today. Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore were married in Prophetstown, Illinois, on September 20, 1882.

In honor of the occasion, they have placed on display in their home a number of articles which have been handed down from generation to generation, which were in household use many years ago. Among other interesting relics of the past is the old spinning wheel with which the cold beds were made comfortable to get into on a frosty winter night, mortar and pestle used for grinding coffee beans, old portraits, and many other interesting mementoes of by-gone days.

Friends of the couple are cordially invited to visit them today.

Coming To Torrance



A. P. GIANNINI
A. P. Giannini, chairman of the board of directors, Bank of America, also chairman of the Transamerica Corporation, will visit Torrance some time tomorrow, according to an announcement made yesterday by James W. Leach, manager of the local branch. Mr. Giannini is making a tour of the branches of this state-wide bank, and is expected to arrive at Torrance Tuesday, from where he is making trips to the various communities in which branches are located.

Birdsall Files Damage Suit

Ernest E. Birdsall, of 4425 Torrance boulevard, has a suit on file today in Los Angeles superior court asking \$10,000 damages for the death of his wife, Pearl Birdsall, who died from injuries after an automobile struck her while she was walking on the boulevard near their home last January 23.

Birdsall asserts in his complaint that the driver of the heavy coupe which struck his wife, George W. Yates, was driving at a high rate of speed and was negligent. Accidents occurred at 11:15 o'clock at night. Negligence is charged because of the fact that a full moon was shining, the sky was clear, and the boulevard was unobstructed.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING HELD TO START IMPROVEMENT WORK

Intensive Campaign to Interest Property Owners in Federal Better Housing Program Starts This Week; Plenty of Money Available

An enthusiastic meeting of contractors and material men in the building and allied trades was held at the Chamber of Commerce rooms Tuesday evening, when plans were completed to place in the hands of a selected list of property owners in Torrance complete information regarding the Better Housing program sponsored by the federal government.

Those present, with others who were unable to attend but who are heartily in accord with the plans, will act as a committee to spread this information and will finance its nominal cost.

From the list of residents kept by the Chamber of Commerce, 500 names of tenant property owners will be selected. Each of these will receive a pamphlet by mail, setting out all details of the program, and full information as to the advantage of the opportunity to borrow money for improvements. Enclosed in the pamphlet will be a postcard which the property owner is asked to fill out and return to the chamber. It reads: "Within the next _____ months I will spend approximately \$_____ to improve my _____ I plan to do the following: _____"

I would (would not) like you to send me a list of dealers from whom to buy materials.

On receipt of the returned cards, some member of the committee will contact the property owner to discuss the proposed work and make an estimate.

In addition to the 500 property owners, the same number of renters will be mailed a pamphlet and card with the request that the renter list the improvements needed in his opinion on the occupied property and send it on to his landlord.

Under the housing act, at this time money is available for all classes of permanent improvements and repairs. The money may be borrowed from the banks in Torrance, at the rate of 55 per cent per annum, and may be repaid in any period of time up to three years. Loans from \$100 to \$200 may be obtained. The government guarantees the banker against loss up to 20 per cent of his total loans to the public, but the transaction is entirely between the borrower and the banker, as in the case of any ordinary loan, and the banker is a sole arbiter as to the financial risk.

Torrance dwellings, store and factory buildings, many of them are now in need of repairs, re-painting and general improvements. Several thousand dollars could be used in making these improvements to the general benefit of the community in the form of materials, wages to workmen, and enhanced value of improved property.

Other communities are organizing campaigns with great success and marked improvement in business conditions. Full information regarding the plan, the terms on which loans are to be made, may be obtained from the banks, the Chamber of Commerce or from the committee of tradesmen who are now actively trying to promote interest among the property owners. It is an opportunity which will be employed in the same capacity at the San Antonio Community hospital. Her place here is being filled by Alfred Carroll, of Los Angeles.

HOME FROM VISIT
Mrs. Charles Chaplin, 1919 Cota avenue, has returned from a two weeks' vacation in Oakland, where she visited with her daughter, Miss Aida Chaplin, who is taking an advanced course in nursing at the Oakland hospital.

GOES TO UPLANDS
Mrs. Victoria Ollinger, X-ray technician at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital, left Tuesday for Uplands, where she will be employed in the same capacity at the San Antonio Community hospital. Her place here is being filled by Alfred Carroll, of Los Angeles.

ABRAMSONS MOVE TO LOMITA
N. Abramson, manager of the Star Furniture Company, has moved with his family to 2316 25th street, Lomita.

FOUR-LEGGED DUCK
William Harper, 1008 Cravens avenue, found a four-legged duckling among a brood hatched at his place recently. However, it soon died.

Grading On Palos Verdes Drive Will Be Finished Soon

All the work of grading the new Palos Verdes drive will be completed early next week, according to the county road department. Work has been under way for nearly 18 months, utilizing CWA and SERRA workers.

The new roadway will extend west from Gaffey street, which lies in directly with Vermont avenue, to a connection with an existing road in the westerly part of the Palos Verdes Hills. Length of the new road is about four miles.

No arrangements have been made as yet for surfacing the new roadway, which is expected to be popular with motorists, between Redondo Beach and Wilmington, because there is but one intersecting street in the four-mile link.

The crew of workers has varied from 75 to as high as 200, according to road department engineers who have been supervising the work.

Missing Page of Records Causes Detention of 3 Officials and Attorney in Suit Against D & M Are Ordered Held

Proceedings in the suit brought by the West American Rubber Company against the D & M Machine Works of Torrance, came to a sudden halt yesterday when two officials of the plaintiff company, Charles Lamb, vice president, and H. H. Vickery, secretary, and their attorney, R. W. Johnson, were ordered into the custody of United States Marshal Clark and ordered to be cited for contempt of court.

United States Judge Cosgrave gave the order to hold the three men when Lamb and Vickery failed to produce a page from the minutes of a directors' meeting, a photostatic copy of which was introduced as evidence in their suit against the D & M Company for infringement of patent, and which evidence, according to J. W. McQuaid of the Torrance office, had later been withdrawn.

Attorney W. L. Conner, representing the local company, had demanded the production in court of the original page from which the photostatic copy had been made, and on the refusal of the West American officials, on advice of their attorney to produce the missing page, action was taken in the federal court to compel their obedience.

The action in federal court here was the outgrowth of a patent infringement suit brought in the United States district court at Houston, Texas, by the D & M Machine Works against the Texas Rubber and Specialty Company, and involves patents covering their slush pump patent.

The Torrance company charges the Houston company with a violation of their patent rights, and the Houston company here was charged with the violation of the patent rights of the Torrance company. Failure of the West American Company to file their suit also point to a victory for the D & M in their action against the Texas concern since the same issues are involved.

Beverly Smith Named Head Of Artisan Lodge

Beverly B. Smith, initiated Monday night into the United Artisans lodge at Lomita, will head the new Torrance lodge which will be instituted here early in October. Smith was invested with the title of master artisan, and several of his staff of officers were also chosen.

Annon Jeranek will serve as secretary, William J. Higgins as treasurer, and Joe Higgins, at present a member of the Lomita lodge but who expects to transfer to Torrance, will be senior conductor.

Other members who form the nucleus of the new lodge are Charles Airey, William Jeranek, Georgia Higgins, Jean Ann Hudson, and three to be initiated later.

Plans are now being made to hold the meeting to institute the new lodge at the Woman's club, which is being made here to interest local citizens in the lodge, which is open to men and women, with a junior organization for young people under age.

The Lomita lodge, since it was formed last year, has increased greatly in membership. A class of 12, including several of those who will belong to the Torrance lodge, was initiated Monday night, and in the past scarcely a meeting night has gone by without the addition of one or more candidates.

Prospects for a large and enthusiastic membership here are bright, according to the deputies who have the matter in charge.

MOTHER OF FOUR CHILDREN HELD ON BURGLARY CHARGE

Mrs. Ardelle Geldreich of Lomita Will Have Preliminary Hearing September 28; Her Husband Also in Custody As Officers Uncover Much Loot Stored in Home

Preliminary hearing in the case against Mrs. Ardelle Geldreich, 2110 24th street, Lomita, who was arrested Tuesday on a charge of burglary, was set for September 28 when the woman was arraigned in the Lomita township justice court before Judge George B. Aitkenhead, sitting for Judge Esther I. Dennis, yesterday. Mrs. Geldreich, who is the mother of four small children, was accused of unlawfully entering the Angel Food Cake shop, a Lomita place of business, several months ago.

Her husband, Frank Geldreich, is also in custody, as a result of six weeks of investigation on the part of Deputy Sheriff Fred Wolfe of the farm theft detail, and Police Sergeant John Strohl, of the Torrance police department, and the arrest of the couple it is believed will clear up many cases of law suits of several months' standing.

Last week, according to Deputy Wolfe, sufficient evidence had been gathered to authorize a close inspection of the premises where the family resides, which revealed a quantity of household articles, clothing, toys, tools, garden hose, and in the yard numerous chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys, considerably more than obvious circumstances warranted.

On checking records of the police and constables' departments in Torrance and Lomita, the officers were able to trace some of the property to its source, and numerous owners called at the residence to identify their property. Under questioning and on being confronted with witnesses who were able to pick out their property from the loot, some of which had been stored in the attic, Geldreich finally admitted his part in the widespread operations, and was placed under arrest.

Known Lomita victims, who have reported losses to the police at various times in the past year or more, are V. E. Larson, cashier of the California Bank at Lomita; Ethel Archer, 1919 Pennsylvania avenue; Vernon Brooks, 2513 Walnut street, all of whom reported clothing stolen from the line; V. H. Hutchinson, 2214 34th street, seven rolls of chicken wire; Anna Erickson, 2513 Pennsylvania avenue, a quantity of almonds and walnuts; Thomas Willson, 2821 23rd street, chicken feed and other articles; W. H. Robertson, 1314 Lomita boulevard, child's tricycle and wagon; Henry Viethaus, 2283 1/2 25th street, baby buggy, chair, tricycle and high chair.

Since the arrest of the couple the officers in charge of the case have conducted numerous Torrance and Lomita victims of unexplained losses to the Geldreich residence, where among the extraordinary accumulation of goods, they hoped to be able to identify their missing property and in some cases were successful.

The full extent of the depredations has not yet been ascertained, but it is believed to be extensive. **TURN TO STORY 3**
Page 8

Valley Banks Change Hours

Member banks of the Valley Bank Association will go on a new schedule of hours for Saturday business, beginning Saturday, September 29, according to announcement made this week.

After next week, all members of this association will open at 9:15 a. m. and close promptly at 12 o'clock noon, instead of opening at 9:30 a. m. and closing at 12:30 p. m. as is done at present.

Banks affected are the two Torrance banks, the Torrance National Bank and the Bank of America, Torrance branch, the California Bank of Lomita, the Bank of America, Gardena branch, and the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Gardena, which is now being reorganized and will be open for business within a very short time.

The new hours bring these banks into line with the practice of all other banks in the state, which have adhered to these hours for some time, the only exceptions in this district at least being the members of the Valley Bank Association.

Community Service Committee Starts Annual Campaign For Funds

Chairman Sam Levy, in charge of the annual campaign for funds for the Torrance Community Service Association, which got under way this week, has already received several substantial donations and it is believed that at the end of the campaign a considerable sum will have been accumulated to take care of relief work planned by organizations in this city.

Accompanying a check for \$25 from the Dicalite Company, whose plant is located in Torrance near Waltham, is a letter which not only expresses the pleasure of the company in being able to assist in the worthy cause, but offers the services of its superintendent, Mr. Stockton, to help in any committee work required. The receipt of the letter is a source of gratification to Mr. Levy and the officers of the Association, who see in this a spirit of active co-operation and good will towards the civic enterprises of the community.

While no house to house drive is being made for funds, all Torrance residents who care to contribute are cordially invited to do so in any sum they wish, and the donations may be handed to Mr. Levy, or any of the officers, J. W. Post, vice president; James W. Leach, treasurer; L. G. Gilmeister, secretary. The president, R. H. Smith, is at present in England on business for his company, the National Supply Company.

**ENROLLMENT AT
HIGH SCHOOL GAINS**
Enrollment at the Torrance high school had increased from 632 reported on the opening day, September 11, to 703, with a good prospect that this figure will be exceeded soon, according to Principal Arthur G. Waldlell. Mr. Waldlell says that apparently there are a number of youths in Torrance who have not enrolled, possibly due to the state law requiring the prevailing of the school where classes are being held in tents due to the work of rehabilitating the buildings, damaged in the earthquake.

He calls the attention of the parents of these youths, to the fact that the state law requires that if young people under the age of 18 to attend school, and those who have not already enrolled should do so immediately as the truant officers of this district are making a check on those who were in school last year and have not registered for this semester.

NOTICE OF INTENTION
Notices of intention to wed were filed in Los Angeles this week by the following local residents:
Erick L. Sanders, 31, of Grand Hotel, Lomita, and Beulah M. Cooper, 22, of Spurlin Court, Torrance.
Fred C. Reichmann, 28, of Norman Arms Apartments, Torrance, and Bonnie M. Madden, 26, of 1298 St. Louis street, Long Beach.