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THREATENED P. E. RY. STRIKE WILL NOT AFFECT TORRANCE

Pacific Electric Shop Employees Not Involved In Controversy; Other Local Industries to Ship By Truck or Boat

The threatened strike of Pacific Electric Railway Company trainmen will have little or no effect upon operations at Torrance industrial plants, the Herald learned this morning in a survey of local factory executives. Shipments from the Columbia Steel mills and other industries can be sent by truck direct to their destination or transferred to the harbor.

Employees at the Pacific Electric shops in Torrance are not involved in the present controversy which is confined to the trainmen's union, local Pacific Electric executives stated.

The only possible inconvenience to Torrance residents and business interests which will be caused by the threatened strike, it is called, will be the halting of passenger cars on the Pacific Electric line through Torrance. Mail service will not be curtailed, according to Postmaster C. Earl Comer. Demands of the train service employees, numbering between 1700 and 1800, for an increase in wages, is announced as the basic cause of the proposed strike, which was sanctioned by practically an unanimous vote of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. The vote stood 1052 to 62 in favor of the strike.

C. T. Nolan, a union official, declared that the only thing that would halt issuance of the strike order, which has not yet been issued but is expected hourly, would be an agreement by the railroads to arbitrate the wage question. Union officials admitted, however, that the walk-out could be temporarily averted by action on the part of the National Mediation Board.

Under the Federal Railway Act, President Roosevelt has the power to appoint an emergency board and make recommendations. Pending such recommendations, the law provides that no strike shall be called in a 60-day period wherein the emergency board acts and wherein time is given for the recommendations to be carried out.

According to a statement by D. W. Pontius, president of the Pacific Electric Railway, the increase demanded by the Brotherhood would amount to an average of 51 per cent in the case of the P. E. train service men, a total of \$1,014,900 annually. This sum the railroad is not prepared to pay, said Mr. Pontius, who pointed out that during 1933 the company did not earn its operating expenses and taxes by \$166,985, and that for the first ten months of the present year the earnings have fallen short by \$240,087 of the amount required for operating expenses and taxes.

"No money was earned with which to pay bond interest, and no dividend has ever been paid on the capital stock of the company," said Pontius.

Officers of the yellow car and yellow bus lines union in Los Angeles were to meet at 10 o'clock this morning with representatives of the National Labor Relations Board, in a discussion of the proposed strike on these lines. No definite action has yet been taken, but the situation is regarded as a serious threat.

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SUNSET-PACIFIC REFINERY PLANT MOVING TO TORRANCE

Machinery Equipment At Vernon to Be Stored Temporarily At Old Julian Location, Pending Reorganization

Removal of the Sunset-Pacific Company's refinery plant from Vernon to the company's property at Torrance is under way this week, according to officers of the company in Los Angeles.

The plant is not being set up at the Torrance property, however, but merely is being stored there, according to F. H. Rolapp, federal receiver in charge of the company's properties.

Several weeks ago it was learned that the company had been requested to remove its plant from the Vernon refinery site. It does not own the property there. The property in Torrance is often referred to as the old Julian property, and is located at the corner of Main street and East Road, adjoining the city of Torrance.

The company plans to operate its distributing facilities from

Los Angeles Man Is Low Bidder On Post Office

Work Is Expected to Start Soon After Award of Contract

Bids, for the construction of the Torrance postoffice, opened November 12, at the Treasury Department in Washington, D. C., revealed Harold Hansen, 1186 No. Flores avenue, Los Angeles, as the low bidder, according to an announcement of the Southwest Builder & Contractor. Hansen's bid was \$34,875, with the Bettenson Construction Company, 1950 Pacific avenue, Long Beach, second, with \$37,386. Other bids were L. F. Dow Company, \$37,700; Schuler & McDonald, \$38,478; Thos. A. Beyer Corporation, \$39,000; and N. A. Anderson, \$41,200.

The building will be of concrete, with composition roof, damp-proofing materials, metal skylights, steam heating plant and fully equipped with modern facilities for handling the business of the office.

Work is expected to start within a short time, as soon as possible after the letting of the contract.

Red Cross Roll Call Now Under Way In Torrance

Chairman Flora Waters Finds Ready Response Among Local Citizens

Volunteer workers in the Red Cross roll call drive in Torrance are finding a ready response among citizens, says Mrs. Flora Waters, local branch chairman, and are hopeful of enrolling their quota before the end of the drive on November 29.

Persons who wish to obtain memberships, who have not been approached by the workers, may leave their names at the Red Cross headquarters, 1610 Caballo avenue, or at the office of the Dominguez Land Corporation, 1510 Cravena avenue, where C. A. Curtis will receive the applications.

The Red Cross activities in relieving distress take on a widely varied character throughout the world. Last year volunteer workers produced 4,734,210 garments for distribution, 3,678,831 surgical dressings for use in hospitals, 18,475 bayettes for new-born babies. Other workers canned fruits and vegetables, filled Christmas bags for distribution to army and navy men in hospitals or stationed in remote foreign posts. Thousands of pages of Braille were transcribed by hand for the blind and thousands more were turned out by a duplicating process.

During the year, 322,253 volunteer workers, not including those engaged in disaster relief, gave an average of 50 hours or more of service.

At Lomita the rain gauge registered 2.50 inches for the storm of last week, making a total of 5.70 inches for the season.

Sewer Official Rescinds Order Against Columbia

Steel Mill Given Permission to Discharge Waste Water Through Present Sewer

Permission to discharge waste water through the present sewer mains connected with its plant was given this week to officials of the Columbia Steel Company by A. K. Warren, chief engineer of the Metropolitan sewer district, following publication of charges last week that local industries were being discriminated against.

Chief Engineer Warren also gave assurances to Columbia officials that adequate provisions would be made for disposing of increased waste waters in the future. The action was greeted with much satisfaction by Columbia executives, as the problem has been troubling them for some time.

MISS BETTY RIPPLE WED IN OCTOBER

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Ripple, former residents of Torrance, have received announcements telling of the marriage of Miss Betty Jane Ripple to Ferraro Dubruiz Jacques, which took place Wednesday, October 17, at Hancock, Maryland. The Ripple family left Torrance where Mr. Ripple had been engaged in the furniture business, about three years ago to make their home in the South.

Two Issues Next Week

Two issues of the Torrance Herald & Lomita News will be published during Thanksgiving week,—the first issue to be distributed early Tuesday morning, November 27, and the second issue at noon Friday.

Food stores and other merchants are planning attractive pre-Thanksgiving values to be advertised in the Tuesday morning issue. The Friday noon edition will contain week-end offerings. The usual complete distribution will be given both the Tuesday and Friday editions. Watch for them before breakfast Tuesday morning, and shortly after lunch Friday.

Carrier boys are requested to report at 6 a. m. Tuesday and at 1 p. m. Friday. The Herald office will be closed all day Thursday.

Mrs. Geldreich Pleads Guilty to Two Counts

Lomita Woman Held On Burglary Charge Asks For Probation

Mrs. Ardelle Geldreich, of Lomita, arrested last September on charges of burglary, alleged by several complainants, appeared yesterday before Judge Desmond of the superior court in Long Beach and pleaded guilty to two counts, one involving an affair in San Pedro and the other in Lomita. She asked probation, and will come before the judge on December 5 for hearing on this request.

Her husband, Frank Geldreich, who was brought to trial in Torrance on Tuesday, and in Long Beach on Wednesday, was acquitted in both instances. Geldreich, at the Torrance hearing before a jury in Judge Robert Leslie's court, was accompanied by his four children, one of them a baby in arms.

The Geldreichs were arrested after officers had had them under surveillance for some time on suspicion of being concerned in numerous unexplained robberies of domestic stock and household goods from premises in Lomita, Torrance and vicinity. A large quantity of goods, much of which was identified as stolen property, was found in the Geldreich home at 3110 340th street.

CHILD DIES SUDDENLY OF NATURAL CAUSES

Rosa Belmontis, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julian Belmontis, 1212 25th street, Harbor City, died suddenly at the home Friday, November 16. An autopsy disclosed that the child, aged one year and seven months, had died of natural causes. Interment was made on Monday afternoon.

VISITORS

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Jorgenson, of Palm Springs, spent Sunday in Lomita visiting relatives and friends.

Plan to Contact Local Residents In Home Modernization Campaign

House-to-House Canvass By Federal Representatives to Be Conducted In Torrance and Lomita, Says Government Official

Elmer Meyers, staff supervisor under F. W. Marlow, director for Southern California in the federal Better Housing program, was in the city Monday making final arrangements with Secretary L. J. Gilmeister of the Chamber of Commerce to launch the campaign in this city, whereby local residents will be invited to co-operate with the federal government in a nationwide movement to restore prosperity.

By concentrating on the building trades, the government has selected a group which is the largest in the country and through which the quickest, most direct and diversified response can be expected in an upward surge of productive power. Money spent in the building trades reaches the widest number of related industries and is spread out over a larger number of allied artisans and workers than any other group can muster.

Recently a committee was appointed in Torrance to promote a civic response to the movement. The committee is headed by Sherwood McIntyre as general chairman, with the following as chairmen of sub-committees: Grover C. Whyte, publicity; F. L. Parks, field campaign; Charles V. Jones, building industry; J. W. Leach, finance and loans; and Miss Lute Fraser, women's committee. L. B. Kelsey will be in charge of 20 federal representatives who will soon be at work on the campaign in Torrance and Lomita and the complete plan evolved to date will be announced in the Herald next week.

Work In Tunnel Halted By Huge Flow of Water

San Jacinto Construction Is Again Flooded; Additional Pumps Installed

An increased flow of water into that section of the San Jacinto tunnel being excavated from the 800-foot-deep Potrero shaft has resulted in the contracting firm of Wenzel and Henoch temporarily suspending excavation at this point.

San Jacinto tunnel, 13 miles long, is one of the 29 tunnels on the Colorado river aqueduct now being constructed by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

During the past several months construction operations of the contracting firm of Wenzel and Henoch have been frequently interrupted by large quantities of water breaking into that portion of the San Jacinto tunnel being excavated from Potrero shaft, situated near the town of Beaumont. Four months ago water flooded into the tunnel line in such quantities that it filled the tunnel and rose several hundred feet in the shaft.

Recently this condition has been cleared up, pumps had been installed to handle the inflow of water and excavation work had been resumed. Three days ago, however, the quantity of water flowing into the tunnel suddenly increased again. The inflow of water halted construction work. When a large pump being used to lift the water from the tunnel line broke down, the water rose rapidly, soon filled the tunnel line, and rose approximately 400 feet in the tunnel shaft.

Additional pumps were placed in operation Tuesday, it was announced, and the work of clearing the tunnel of water was once more set underway.

Mothers Invited To Hear Conrad Speak Tuesday

District Superintendent Will Attend Meeting Held at Woman's Clubhouse

District Superintendent Warren C. Conrad will be the principal speaker at a meeting to be held next Tuesday afternoon, November 27, at the Woman's clubhouse, 1422 Engracia avenue, beginning at 1:30 o'clock. The mothers of school pupils of the elementary, junior and senior high school are invited to attend as the meeting is held for the purpose of acquainting mothers with school conditions in general and to bring about a better understanding of the school program.

Brief talks will be made by Principal Arthur G. Waldschel who will speak generally on school conditions. Coach Bernard J. Donahue will talk on athletics and its rightful place in the school work, its benefits to young people when properly supervised and directed. Miss Rae Terry Bent, in charge of girls' athletics, will talk on the girls' play day which will be held at an early date.

A short musical program will be given by the Madrigal Singers.

St. Andrew's Church Offers Grand Bazaar

Stars of Radio, Stage and Screen Will Appear On Tonight's Program

Miss Bunola Kay, radio artist, who has appeared before Torrance audiences on several prior occasions, will sing tonight at the grand bazaar and carnival, given by St. Andrew's Episcopal church at the Woman's clubhouse, 1422 Engracia avenue.

Pupils of Miss Mae Murray, Los Angeles teacher of dancing, will also be seen on the program, and other professional entertainers will have a part in the affair, which will be one of the most enjoyable events held in Torrance in some time.

CITY TO TAKE POSSESSION OF WATER SYSTEM DEC. 24

Mayor Ludlow Reveals Plans For Moving Water Offices; Comments On Rates; Leonard to Supervise Water Department

A ten-day delay in printing the city's water bonds, to conform to requirements of bond buyers and James H. Beebe, special counsel employed by the city, will necessitate postponing transfer of the water company's distributing system to the City of Torrance until December 24, it was stated this morning by Mayor Scott R. Ludlow.

New Dealer



Above, Byron N. Scott, Long Beach, Cal. elected to represent California in the 18th congressional district. Scott is one of the many Democrats that went into office in the November election.

However, it is known that the bonding houses have already disposed of \$150,000 of the \$200,000 issue to two banks, and there remains only \$50,000 to be marketed. While it is expected that the money will be available in about ten days, as from the bonding houses, it is doubtful if the city will be able to obtain it until a few days prior to December 24 in order to delay starting of the interest period.

Assured that everything will be in readiness by December 24 to complete the purchase of the water company's holdings, city officials this week sent notice to water company officials that they were ready to exercise the option to purchase the system and began making definite plans for operating the municipal water department.

In an interview this morning, Mayor Ludlow stated that original plans for moving the water office to the city hall had been abandoned but that it would be removed to a more central location soon after the city takes the system over. The present staff of employees will be retained except for E. C. Nelson, manager, whose duties will be taken over by City Engineer F. R. Leonard, who will devote about half his time to supervising the water department. From December 24 to January 24, the water company will operate the system for the city in order to affect collection of current water bills. From January 24, during this 30-day period will accrue to the city.

Water Rates

Until the city operates the system for a few months no change in the present water rates is contemplated, Mayor Ludlow stated. However, as soon as it can be determined upon actual operation of the system that rates can be lowered, a reduction will be made, Ludlow stated. Under the present arrangement of selling only \$200,000 of the \$400,000 bonds voted, it will be necessary to continue buying water bills. From the Dominguez Water Company, Mayor Ludlow explained, and until the city is able to drill its own wells and construct its own pumping and storage tanks, the full savings anticipated by municipal ownership will not be felt. However, the city is now negotiating with

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BUILDING PERMITS SO FAR RECEIVED TOTAL OF \$150,000

Hughes-Mitchell Plant Now Has Twenty-two Buildings and Other Structures Completed and Under Construction On South Normandie Site

Building permits issued for the new \$1,000,000 Torrance plant of the Hughes-Mitchell Processes Company passed the \$150,000-mark this week, it was revealed by records of the Los Angeles department of building and safety. The newest addition to the Torrance industrial district is rising at 20210 Normandie avenue, just inside the Los Angeles shoeing addition.

The two newest permits, one of them for a two-story building, were announced early this week. The two-story building will cost \$2000 and another one-story corrugated steel building will cost \$4000.

Here is the record of the permits issued up to this week:
August 6, \$9000 steel building.
August 9, \$9800 storage bins.
August 21, \$14,000 storage building for machinery.
August 22, \$900 masonry track hopper structure.
August 23, \$3000 leach building.
August 24, \$4500 machinery shop.
September 5, \$8900 corrugated asbestos building.
September 13, \$8000 frame and stucco office building.
September 14, \$6000 steel plant building.
September 17, \$11,000 steel building.
September 19, \$4900 steel building.
September 20, \$1800 addition to machinery building.

The plant, it is explained, will extract pigments from ores to be shipped to Torrance from Utah and Idaho, the method of extraction being by an entirely new process. The products are to be used by paint companies, in the manufacture of storage batteries and similar industrial manufacturing. It is said that the output will be absorbed by firms financially interested in the plant.