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# Torrance Herald

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## FINAL CHAPTER IN PURCHASE OF WATER SYSTEM MONDAY

Important Details Relative to the Conduct of the Business After the Transfer Set Up in Resolutions Adopted By Council Tuesday

Several important details of the transfer to the City of Torrance of the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company's water system, were taken care of at the meeting of the council Tuesday evening, in the adoption of several resolutions and the first reading of an emergency ordinance, which will be passed at a later date.

Water rates, as set up tentatively subject to later revision, by the council's consulting engineers, Salisbury, Bradshaw and Taylor, were fixed on a sliding scale, starting with a minimum of 500 cubic feet for domestic, industrial and irrigation purposes. However, the council voted to continue for the present with the old rates now in effect under the private company's set-up, until such time as events show that they can safely be lowered.

A monthly rate for automatic sewer flushers was established, and minimum rates for various sizes of meters were adopted. Regulations governing applications, payment of bills, notices of change of ownership or tenancy, and charges for turning water on or for installing meters were also adopted. After the transfer of the system to the city, all persons now using or who desire to use the city service must make applications on forms approved by the council, and are subject to the regulations set out in the resolution adopted for that purpose.

Mayor Scott R. Ludlow was authorized to execute the agreement with the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company, whereby the city assumes the taxes for the year 1934, and liability for all regular or special consumers deposits, during the same period, which will be done as soon as the transfer of the system is completed on Monday.

The city will also carry on the present arrangements of the water company in supplying customers in the Los Angeles shooting strip in the 21st street and Hallside improvement district and the 23rd street and Harvard boulevard improvement district, as per the agreement with the water and power commission of the city of Los Angeles, which agreement, however, may be terminated by the city of Torrance at any time after the expiration of the contract.

Opposition to adoption of the late schedule, and to the fixing of a charge for installing water meters, was voiced by Councilman W. T. Klusman, who voted no on both resolutions. The council moved to establish a rate of \$1.00 per 1000 cubic feet, but his motion was lost for want of a second.

C. J. Rambo & Co. were employed to set up the books of the water department for the city and the city clerk was authorized to purchase ledgers and other necessary books for the accounting department.

For the present the water company staff, Ray Coffin, foreman, H. C. Bender and Mrs. Edith Smith, will be retained at their present salaries until February 1. The Dominguez Water Company will be requested in writing to continue the service of water at the same rate as that paid by the Torrance Water, Light and Power Company. All meters will be read on December 24, next Monday, and all consumers will be notified of the change in ownership.

All necessary details of the transfer of ownership are expected to be completed next Monday afternoon when the city council will meet at 8 o'clock.

Councilman W. T. Klusman's motion that he be appointed water commissioner received a second, but lost by a vote of four to one, his own being the only affirmative. The council as a whole will act as a water committee for the present.

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SEND THIS COUPON  
\*\*\*\*\*  
All those who have not been contacted by Red Cross workers for memberships, and who wish to join, are requested to fill out this coupon and send to Mrs. Flora Waters, chairman, 1951 Carson street.  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Sale of Assets Julian Company Made At Auction

Approval of Federal Judge Tomorrow Will Close the Affairs of Corporation

Construction of a distribution plant at the Torrance property of the Sunset-Pacifi Oil Company will follow if the federal court approves the sale next Friday of the assets of the Julian Petroleum Corporation, the Sunset Oil Company.

The Pacific part of the name would be dropped. Sale of the assets of the "golden bubble" was made last Friday by Special Master George B. Colby, who read off the decree ordering the sale in front of the Hall of Records, before a small group of interested persons. There was only one bid, and that was "paper," in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Acceptance of the bid was made by Colby, with the explanation that it would be subject to the approval of Federal Judge Harry Holtzer in United States district court in Los Angeles next Friday. The assets of the Sunset Pacific Company, the special master called for bids on the California Eastern Oil Company, organized by S. C. Lewis as a successor company to the Julian concern after the Julian debacle.

Arthur M. Loeb entered a bid of 15 cents for the 1,000,000 shares of stock, which the special master accepted. It was understood that the California Eastern stock was practically worthless.

## Young Man Gives Life to Save Girl From Death On Icy Slope

Heroic action in saving his girl friend, Miss Pollyanna Hollar, from possible death or serious injury on the icy slopes of a mountain, cost the life of Charles Rowland Trotman, of Lomita, last Tuesday, and turned a happy outing into a tragedy.

Trotman, Miss Hollar, who is a student clerk at Narbonne high school, and Forest Adcock, were three of a party of 14 members of the Harbor City Epworth League, who had gone to Wrightwood, in the San Gabriel mountains over the week-end, and who left the other members of the party on Tuesday to go for a hike in the snow.

According to Adcock's story of the tragic event, Miss Hollar, who was walking ahead of the boys, slipped on the top of a steep icy incline. Trotman sprang to save her and succeeded in pushing her back to safety, but in doing so lost his own footing and slid down the slope for more than 100 feet and plunged over a 50-foot cliff to his death.

The body was recovered by forest rangers and others of the camp at Big Pine, two miles from the scene of the accident, and was brought to Stone & Myers mortuary in Torrance yesterday.

Trotman was 23 years of age, a graduate with the class of 1931 from Narbonne high school. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Trotman, residing on Narbonne avenue, in Lomita, where they have resided for years. He is survived by his parents, one brother, Dawson, of Long Beach, and one sister, Mrs. Mildred Helsterman, of Whittier.

Rowland was very popular among the younger set in Lomita and was well known in this city where for four years he was a member of Troop 3 of the Boy Scouts, and held a high rating in that organization.

Miss Hollar is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse J. Hollar, 1675 West 26th street, South Lomita. Funeral services will be held on Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock, from Stone & Myers chapel. Interment will be made at Roosevelt Memorial Park.



## MERRY CHRISTMAS

### Mother of Judge Frank Carrell Is Taken By Death

Mrs. Rosa B. Carrell, mother of Judge Frank Carrell, passed away Tuesday, at her home in Gardena, 1013 West Gardena boulevard, at the age of 71 years. Mrs. Carrell as a pioneer of California, coming to the state in 1879. She and her family have resided in Gardena since 1892, one of the first families to settle in the valley.

Mrs. Carrell is survived by six children, her husband having preceded her in death early last year. Funeral services were held today at the Baptist church in Gardena, with interment at Roosevelt Memorial Park.

### To Light Trees

Following the regular custom, the C.C.M.O. camp in West Torrance will be brilliantly lighted tomorrow night and every night until December 25, when hundreds of colored lamps will be turned on in the grounds and avenue leading to the camp. The display is one of the most attractive in the city.

### Smith Will Head Local Committee Roosevelt Ball

Beverly B. Smith, chairman of the President's birthday ball, held last January 30, will act in the same capacity this year, and is already setting in motion his plans for this city's observance of the second nation-wide celebration of Franklin D. Roosevelt's birthday.

As was the case last year, the proceeds from the hundreds of public gatherings on this date will be used in rehabilitating the victims of infantile paralysis.

Last year the proceeds were donated to the Warm Springs Foundation, an institution maintained to help those afflicted to return to complete health. This year 70 per cent of the funds raised by the local birthday ball will be retained by the community to be used in rehabilitating its own infantile paralysis victims.

Thirty per cent of the funds will be turned over to the national committee for delivery to the President to be presented by him to a national commission which he will create to widen research efforts to wipe out the disease itself.

A committee, with Mr. Smith at its head, will make the necessary arrangements for the Torrance celebration, which will be held on January 30. Announcement as to the place of holding will be made later. Efforts will be made to put on a celebration even more successful than that of last year.

## HUGHES-MITCHELL COMPANY WELCOMED BY TORRANCE

Over 260 Attend Dinner-Dance At Hollywood Riviera Club Arranged By Torrance Chamber of Commerce; Operations Begin In January

A community-wide welcome to the Hughes-Mitchell Processes, Incorporated, whose million-dollar plant on Normandie avenue is scheduled to begin operations early in January, was the occasion for one of the most delightful social functions ever held in this city. Approximately 90 members of the Hughes-Mitchell personnel were the guests of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, at a dinner-dance given in their honor last Friday evening at the Hollywood-Riviera clubhouse. Over 150 Torrance citizens also attended and joined in the cordial welcome to the Hughes-Mitchell employees, over half of whom are now living in this city.

L. J. Gilmester, secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, acted as toastmaster. Mayor Scott R. Ludlow gave the official welcome for the city. B. W. Lams, general manager of the Torrance mills of the Columbia Steel Company, pointed out the benefits which had already accrued to this city through the Hughes-Mitchell, stating that the Columbia furnished over 1200 tons of steel used in erecting the huge new plant. This substantial order, Lanz stated, provided additional work for local men at the steel mill.

Other Torrance citizens introduced at the banquet included Sherwood McIntyre, president of the Chamber of Commerce; Councilman and Mrs. W. H. Stanger and Councilman and Mrs. W. T. Klusman. Responses were made by T. A. Mitchell, vice president of the Hughes-Mitchell company. Other officials of the company who were introduced were R. E. Cushman, treasurer, and Mrs. Cushman; R. M. Parsons, construction engineer, and Mrs. Parsons; J. W. Bucher, chief engineer; R. H. Abbott, engineer in charge of the acid division, and Mrs. Abbott.

At each lady's place at the dinner was placed a rose bud, and at each gentleman's plate a white carnation, furnished through the courtesy of the Poppy Flower Shop, Torrance. Following the brief speaking program, the balance of the evening was devoted to dancing and getting acquainted with the new Hughes-Mitchell folks.

When the plant begins operations early in January, it will furnish employment to approximately 320 people, including 40 engineers, many of whom are already here and attended the party Friday evening.

Other members of the Hughes-Mitchell personnel, who were unable to attend, include Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Carstens, Mr. R. S. Card, Mr. H. P. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Hubbard, Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Hoffman, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Wegner, Mr. H. Foote, Mr. Thomas Moore and Mrs. Louise Jensen.

## Stores Open Until 9 O'clock Every Evening 'Til Christmas

To accommodate Christmas shoppers, practically all Torrance merchants will keep their stores open evenings until 9 o'clock for the four remaining shopping days until Christmas. Food markets will be open until 8 p. m. on Saturday and Monday only.

## Stores Report Best Christmas Trade Since 1929

Postoffice to Deliver Packages Christmas Day; Open Sat. P. M.

Three more shopping days and then Christmas, with merchants generally reporting the heaviest holiday trade since the boom days of 1929, the annual Christmas buying rush is scheduled to reach its peak before closing time Saturday night. The last three days are expected to break all records due to the fact that Friday is "pay-day" at the Columbia Steel Company and it will be the biggest pay in several months.

For days past Torrance stores have been going a brisk business necessitating the employment of extra salespeople. All general merchandise stores will keep their doors open until 9 o'clock every evening until Christmas, and food markets will remain open both Saturday and Monday evenings until 8 o'clock.

The stores themselves are an inspiration. Special Christmas displays and holiday trimmings brighten the interiors of Torrance retail marts, which seem prettier and more festive than ever. With confidence in business rapidly returning to normalcy, local merchants have become encouraged and enthusiastic about trimming up their stores, and many of them have the best holiday "dress" that they have ever worn. Displays of Christmas goods are also larger and more diversified, and no one should have difficulty in completing his Christmas shopping in Torrance.

The increase in buying is also being reflected at the Torrance postoffice. Postmaster Conner reports substantial increases in business over last year. However, adequate facilities have been provided to take care of the holiday rush, according to Postmaster Conner, and all packages received late Monday afternoon will be delivered before noon on Christmas. There will be no regular mail deliveries on Christmas Day, but all special delivery letters and packages received Christmas Day will be immediately delivered. The postoffice will remain open Saturday afternoon.

## Supervisors Allocate Funds For Cedar Ave.

Late report today from the board of supervisors conveys the information that the board has agreed to allocate \$28,000 for the improvement of Cedar avenue, as requested by the city of Torrance, provided the legislature makes no change in its method of distributing the gasoline tax. The item will be placed in the budget for 1935-36.

As soon as official notice has been given to the city they will take up their agreement to pay \$9000 to the General Petroleum Corporation for the right-of-way.

## If You Want a Job On Aqueduct, Keep Your Address Up-To-Date!

Jamieson Says Hundreds of Torrance Men Lose Chance of Work Thru Neglect in Reporting Change of Address.

A call for all bona fide Torrance citizens desiring to obtain employment on the Colorado River Aqueduct project to make sure that their applications are in order and up-to-date has been issued by N. F. Jamieson, labor employment officer of the Metropolitan Water District.

## SAFEGWAY STORE ON CARSON IS VISITED BY HOLD-UP MEN

Masked Man With Gun Threatens to "Plug" Employees Lined Up In Storeroom; Same Pair Suspected of Numerous Other Raids On Markets

"This is a hold-up, and we mean business. Stick 'em up," said a tall slim man in a blue suit, brown hat, with a handkerchief mask tied over the lower part of his face, to the employees of the Safeway store, on Carson street, at 6:15 o'clock last night.

Manager Earl S. Worden and his clerks, Kenneth Coll, Ronald Coll, Alver Johnson and Harold Cook, had just closed up for the night about 15 minutes before and had finished checking up the receipts for the day, when the sharp command was heard and the startled men looked up to see an ugly-looking automatic staring them in the face.

Close behind the man with the gun came his partner, shorter, stockier, unmasked. "Get in the back of the store and turn around with your faces to the wall," said the gunman, and the squad right-about faced and marched to the partition where the two bandits surveyed the situation and decided that their operation had been hurried and with better results if the store men moved into the back room.

Another order and the line filed around to the right into the storeroom. "Keep quiet in here and don't come out until ten minutes after we're gone," said the tall man, and the pair hurried to the check-out counter where they opened the cash register and hastily scooped out the day's receipts. The sum amounted to only \$134.10 as the clerks had cashed a number of checks during the day and several hundred dollars was represented by this paper.

"Now we don't want them," snarled the leader of the pair in response to Manager Worden's request that they leave the checks. Both bandits were extremely nervous and hastily swept the money into a bag with a muttered curse at the smallness of the sum they had netted. Some of the bills scattered across the floor, where the robbers left them as they dashed out the door.

Manager Worden, as soon as the men were out of the front door, slipped through from the storeroom to the telephone in the rear of the meat department and called the police who arrived within a few seconds but the bandits were nowhere in sight.

Because the front of the store had been closed, the Safeway men had been unable to get a glimpse of the bandit car, consequently any possible clue to the identity of the bandits, which might have been obtained by taking the license number and description of the car, was lost.

Henry Grubb, proprietor of the meat department and his two clerks had left for the night before the hold-up. The leader of the bandits, on seeing that only a small amount of cash was to be had, asked if the meat man had not turned in his receipts, but was told that since the meat department is independently operated the proprietor took care of his own cash and the Safeway men knew nothing about it.

Police broadcasts later in the evening gave the information that two men, suspected of being the same pair, had during the late afternoon held up five clerks on Long Beach, and at 11 o'clock last night had entered a market in Huntington Park where they secured the sum of \$4600, and that the day's operations had netted them well over \$5000 in cash.

The short man of the two was described as wearing a brown hat and checked overcoat. In no case, during the numerous hold-ups attributed to the pair was their car seen, so that police have few clues to guide them in their search.

According to Worden, Mrs. Anna Stadig, a late customer at the store, was just leaving when the bandits pushed their way in, threatening Alver Johnson, who was letting Mrs. Stadig out, with a gun. Mrs. Stadig, however, stated to police that she left the store at 6:05 and that she saw no one either at the door or in the street, but it is quite probable that the men had hidden themselves in some very near place to let her get safely away before they crashed the door.

Speaking of the robbery next day, Henry Grubb stated that on Tuesday he had noticed two men in a Willys Knight sedan who were parked across the street from the store most of the day. These men were about the vicinity for several hours, said Grubb, and answered to the description given of the hold-up men, but whether they were the wanted parties is not known.