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MYSTERIOUS ASSAULT ON COLUMBIA MAN

Charles Hoffacher in Precarious Condition From Skull Fracture Deputy sheriffs from Substation No. 3 who are investigating the circumstances surrounding the mysterious assault which placed Charles A. Hoffacher, 323 1/2 Broadway, Redondo Beach, in the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital with a fractured skull, have baffled so far in their efforts to locate his assailant.

Hoffacher has been in a semi-conscious condition since he was brought to the hospital at 10:20 a. m. Saturday, and has been unable to make a statement. So far as has been learned, Hoffacher, who is an employee of the Columbia Steel plant in Torrance, left his home in Redondo Beach late Friday night to drive his friend, L. J. Gensler, to his home at the Calvert Apartments in Torrance. He left Torrance about midnight.

Mrs. Rounsaville Is New President Of Los Angeles City School Board

With Mrs. Gertrude H. Rounsaville, newly elected president, in the chair, the Los Angeles district board of education, which governs schools in this area, completed its new organization this week. Personnel of all standing committees was announced.

While the man-in-the-street commented somewhat wonderingly over the fact that the three hold-over members of the so-called "Four Horsemen" dominated all but one of these committees, shrewd political observers pointed out that by an odd coincidence, that one was the purchasing committee, which expends all funds.

The final budget has not been adopted, but a tentative budget, prepared before the seating of the new president and the three other new members, is fixed at \$32,659,059 of which \$750,000 is non-expendable cash reserve, as provided for under a new state law. This leaves \$31,909,059 of expendable funds, which is \$481,917 less than the expendable budget of last year.

Estimated revenues, according to Harry M. Howell, assistant director of the board's division of budget and research are: State school fund, \$6,974,059; state general fund, \$8,836,897; reserve on hand, \$3,425,000; interest, \$2,053,586; prior year and miscellaneous, \$815,000; and district taxes, \$12,608,103. This sum total, less \$2,052,586 in revertible interest-district funds, is \$32,659,059.

Personnel of the new standing committees follows: Finance, George W. McDill, Roy J. Becker and Stewart O. Mertz; building, Becker, John F. Dalton and Margaret L. Clark; teachers and schools, Dr. Edward W. Hauck, Mrs. Clark and McDill; insurance, Dalton, Mertz and Hauck; law and rules, Mertz, McDill and Becker; purchasing and distribution, Mrs. Clark, Dalton and Hauck. Besides Mrs. Rounsaville, new members of the board are: Mrs. Clark, Dalton and Becker. Dr. Hauck, Judge McDill and Mertz, the hold-over members, were three of a quartet designated as "The Four Horsemen" at the time of their election.

Victory String Broken Louis Zamperini Places Second In His Event At Lincoln Meet Wednesday

Louis Zamperini, world's champion interscholastic miler, placed second in the 1500-meter run in the N.C.A.A.U. meet, junior division, held Wednesday at Lincoln, Nebraska, the first time in three years that the Torrance lad has tasted defeat.

He was beaten to the tape by Norman Bright of the San Francisco Olympic Club, one of the greatest milers in the country, who turned in a mark of 4:01.6. J. Nelson Gardner, of Michigan State College, was third; John R. Grady, Patterson (N. J.) fourth. The runners battled a stiff breeze which probably accounted for the comparatively slow time. Louie's time for this distance, made last year at the A. A. U. meet in Los Angeles, was four minutes flat. Bright has run the mile in 4:14 several times this year and is classed as one of the five best milers at this distance in the country.

Louis met in this meet the hardest competition he has ever encountered, and his success in placing second is just as commendable as if he had taken first place. Accounts of the meet fail to disclose just what distance separated the winner from the place men, but it is a safe guess that Louie was not far behind. Pete Zamperini, who was entered in the 800 meter run, finished in seventh place. Pete also encountered strong competition in this event and made a good showing, although he failed to finish among the first four. The boys are now on their way home and are expected to arrive Sunday.

Water Company Employee Resigns

After more than 11 years of service in the employ of the Narbonne Ranch Water Company No. 2, Lomita, Mrs. Tirzah Taber presented her resignation as bookkeeper, on June 17, and turned over the office to Arvin Cook, her successor on June 26. Mrs. Taber entered the service in April, 1924, and at the time of her resignation was handling the accounts of about 400 subscribers.

Mr. Cook, who replaces her, is a resident of Lomita, and some years ago was employed in the drygoods store of J. W. Barras. Mrs. Taber is taking a vacation at present but is considering entering in business for herself later on, probably in Torrance.

Woman Is Burned In Explosion

Mrs. Mildred Porter narrowly escaped death or possible severe injuries Tuesday evening when a quantity of gasoline which she was using for cleaning purposes at the Buckeye Cafe, exploded. Her only injury was a severe burn on one foot.

Mrs. Porter was cleaning a tub in a bathroom with the fluid when she accidentally struck the glass container against the tub and broke it. The gasoline ran under a gas heater and ignited from a pilot light. The Torrance fire department was called and extinguished the blaze. The bathroom was wrecked by the explosion.

BURNED BY FIRECRACKER The nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Campbell, residing on 220th street, was severely burned about the nose and one eye by the premature explosion of a firecracker on the Fourth. It is not believed that his sight will be impaired although the boy received a bad burn.

POLICE DOG STOLEN Jay N. Phillips, 900 Via Panoramica, locked his valuable black police dog in his home in the Palos Verdes Estates and left the premises. On his return the door was open and the dog was gone, according to his report to sheriff's deputies at Sub-station No. 3. No clues were obtained.

Production Double Last Year At Pioneer Torrance Industry



Salm Manufacturing Company Plant On Abalone Avenue, Torrance.

If there is any doubt in your mind that Old Man Depression isn't rapidly disappearing into oblivion, you should visit the busy hive of industry which the Herald reporter witnessed this week at the Salm Manufacturing Company plant on Abalone avenue. The hum of activity in this pioneer Torrance manufacturing plant reminds one of boom times, and in talking with executives of the firm we learned that production was nearly double that of last year. John Salm, president of the company, was enthusiastic about future expansions and stated that he expected the output of the plant would surpass the volume of peak years in the near future.

The superior type of abalone shells used by the Salm Manufacturing Company are only found off the coast of San Luis Obispo county and Monterey Bay. No where else in the world can be found shells of such brilliant colorings or thickness as are obtained from these waters. "With the increased production at our plant," Mr. Salm stated, "we expect to absorb the greater part of all abalone shells taken from the San Luis Obispo and Monterey district. Prior to the depression the company carried enormous stocks of raw materials, but these have largely been used up and new shells are again being purchased." Salm Manufacturing Company was organized in 1913 and is one of the oldest manufacturing plants in this industrial city. Throughout the past 22 years the company has maintained a substantial payroll, providing employment for many Torrance families. While of course, the number of employees was reduced considerably during the depression, the plant has been in constant operation, and it is gratifying to learn that it is again hitting its old stride and has a bright future ahead.

Deed Is Drawn

Document Passing Title to Right of Way On Eshelman Sent to Attorney

Work of grading and paving on Eshelman avenue, to link that thoroughfare with Cabrillo avenue, now awaits the signing of the deed to a strip of property through the Kettler ranch, which deed has been prepared by City Engineer Frank R. Leonard and was placed in the hands of the Kettler heirs' attorney this week.

At an adjourned meeting of the city council held last Friday afternoon, a resolution assuring the Kettler heirs that the improvement would be made without additional cost to them above the cost of the land which they are donating, was passed.

The resolution reads as follows: The city council of the city of Torrance does hereby declare, determine and resolve as follows: That in consideration of the heirs of the Emil Kettler estate executing and delivering to the city of Torrance a deed to a right of way connecting the northerly end of Eshelman avenue and Sepulveda and Cabrillo avenue in the city of Torrance, California, a municipal corporation, does hereby expressly stipulate and agree that no assessment will be levied against the abutting property for grading the same to its full width of 80 feet, and improving it with a 30-foot pavement, all in accordance with a proposal for said grading and paving now pending before the S.E.R.A. and that the heirs of said estate shall not be at any expense in connection with such grading and paving.

A copy of this resolution was laid before Mr. John Kettler and Mr. Emil Kettler, Jr., by Secretary L. J. Gilmeister of the Chamber of Commerce, to be brought by them before the group of heirs at a family reunion held Sunday, when the matter was discussed and a favorable answer to the proposal was returned to city officials on Monday.

The heirs requested that the deed be placed in the hands of their attorney at once for study. The deed was prepared and sent to the attorney immediately, and the officials are now awaiting its return with the proper signatures.

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Local Plant Bid Low

United Concrete Company Submits Low Figure on Portion of Outfall Tunnel

With low bids aggregating approximately \$2,526,248 received for construction of the White Point outfall sewer to serve Torrance, Lomita, Bell, Maywood, Huntington Park, Compton, Hawthorne, Inglewood and adjacent communities, the award of the contract is expected to be made Tuesday.

A. K. Warren, chief engineer, said it was necessary to throw out low bids on two units because the low bidder made his offers contingent upon acceptance of his bid on another unit, which was high.

Local concerns will perform the greater amount of the work. The United Concrete Pipe Company of Torrance was the low bidder on the first of three links between the disposal plant at Harbor City and the ocean. Shofner and Gordon were the low bidders on the next two links to the south.

Merritt, Chapman and Scott, of Wilmington, were low bidders on the proposal to lay the submerged pipe in the ocean 5,000 feet from the shore. Approximately 700 men will be given employment on the four contracts, and all of them must be residents of the sanitation districts, according to Chief Engineer Warren.

Warren was preparing today to call a special meeting of the directors for next Tuesday to award the contracts to the low bidders. They are being checked today at the office of A. D. Wilder, state engineer for the Public Works Administration.

Actual construction is expected to begin on or before August 1, Warren estimated. Had it been possible to accept low bids that were not predicated upon other awards, the sewer could have been constructed for a total of \$2,495,000.

Sheriff's Team In Exhibition Here

On Monday, July 15, the crack pistol team of the sheriff's office will put on an exhibition of marksmanship at a meeting of the Kiwanis Club of this city. The team includes C. J. Salazar, S. F. Greigiers, H. Parkman Jones and C. E. Pealer. They will give a demonstration of plain and fancy shooting, which will be of great interest especially to members of the Kiwanis and others who belong to the local revolver club.

New President of Chamber Board Pioneer In Automobile Industry

"It is my desire," said Bronson C. Buxton, newly elected president of the Chamber of Commerce board of directors, "to see more of the young business men taking an active part in the work of the Chamber this year. For a long time the 'old guard' has carried on, and has done a

good work, but in my opinion it is time the younger men of the city were coming forward to take their share of the burdens, and assist with their ideas in promoting Torrance as an industrial city and a city of homes. "I want the younger men to feel that this is their Chamber of Commerce and to come into the councils and help us. The Chamber of Commerce belongs to the community and should be a vital part of its life, with interest for all and using the brains and energy of all public spirited citizens.

"Because I have been a builder, that being my occupation when I first came to Torrance, and am now engaged in real estate business, I shall have a great interest in promoting the housing plan of the federal government and hope to see something worked out whereby more homes will be built here. This is one of the great needs of the community just now, and I shall make every effort to bring about a greater activity along this line."

Mr. Buxton during the first years of his residence in Torrance was responsible for the erection of a number of the finer homes here. Several houses on El Prado, Acacia, in other sections of Torrance, in Los Angeles, and the beautiful Kingsley home in the Palos Verdes Estates are the result of his labor in this direction. At the present time he is engaged in real estate work as head of the Torrance Development Company. His activities have not always been along these lines, and he has some unique experiences to relate in connection with his business career in the east.

Before coming to Torrance eight years ago, Mr. Buxton was on

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BUXTON NAMED PRESIDENT OF C. OF C. BOARD

Prominent Realtor Elected At Meeting of Directors On Monday

Bronson C. Buxton, Torrance realtor, was elected president of the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce at a meeting held Monday afternoon, July 1, at 4 o'clock. Other officers who will serve with Mr. Buxton this year are: Alden W. Smith, first vice president; Bert W. Lanz, second vice president; Frank Buffington, treasurer, and L. J. Gilmeister, secretary. R. R. Smith, Sherwood McIntyre, J. W. McQuaid, Fred Isaacs and Dekalb Spurlin complete the list of directors.

Alden W. Smith was named as chairman of the membership committee and J. S. Lancaster was re-appointed national councillor. At the next quarterly membership meeting, which will be held on July 16, Col. Evans of the federal Better Housing Administration will be the speaker, and at the conclusion of his remarks an opportunity for round table discussion will be offered. All members of the chamber are urged to attend this important session.

Two Injured By Home-Made Bomb

As Chris Bass, 41 East 47th street, and Miss Leona Cwilcher, 235 West 39th street, Los Angeles, were leaving the Bal Tabarin early last Sunday morning, two unidentified adults tossed a home-made bomb into the parking lot and fled. The bomb exploded with great force and fragments of copper were driven into Bass' feet. He also sustained cuts and bruises and an eye injury which may prove serious. Miss Cwilcher was severely cut about the legs. The pair were treated at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital and were able to go to their homes. Police are searching for the perpetrators of the outrage, but so far have no obtained no clues to their identity.

Barbecue Pit At Park Is Completed

In preparation for the summer season when the city park will be in great demand for picnic parties and other social gatherings, the city has just completed a fine barbecue pit and incinerator and workmen are busy on additional improvements in the way of grills for wieners roasts and similar feasts. The new barbecue pit, which will accommodate a whole beef, and the incinerator were built by Sebastian Basile, and is a handsome addition to the other accommodations at the park.

The city plans to improve conditions further by adding gas plates for cooking which will be ready in about two weeks, and will erect a wind break so that picnic suppers can be enjoyed in comfort. The grounds are in demand already with several reservations made for the month of July and many more are expected as summer progresses. The Eastern Star chapter will have a picnic gathering there on July 11, the National Business and Professional Women have reserved the space on July 18, Christian church on July 18 and the Knights of Columbus will have a big barbecue there on July 29.

In addition to these many other small parties use the park and the evenings are given over to various sports activities in the ball grounds.

Chamber Budget For Fiscal Year Is Increased

City Council Sets Up Additional \$2,500 For Promotional Work

By a compromise agreement, entered into after a prolonged discussion of affairs at an adjourned meeting of the city council Monday afternoon, the Torrance Chamber of Commerce will have an increased allowance to work on for the next fiscal year, which will enable it to put through at least a portion of its program for advancing the interests of this community. The council agreed to finance the chamber to the extent of \$8,500, which is an increase of \$2,500 over last year's budget, with the understanding that the chamber will co-operate by financing some of the promotional activities of the city out of the extra \$500, leaving the \$8,000 to carry on their own work. The chamber's overhead totals in the neighborhood of \$6,000 for salaries, office rent, printing, etc., which in the past left them practically no margin for promotional work.

According to Mayor Scott R. Luskow, the chamber was able to convince the council that it had a definite program to carry out along this line, with the result that the extra \$2,000 was set up in the city budget for Chamber of Commerce work.

Silver Cup Presented To School

Presentation of a beautiful silver cup to the boy and girl member of the senior class who had rendered the greatest service in an inconspicuous way during their four years course, was an unusual feature of the commencement exercises held at Torrance high school on June 20. The cup was given to the school by George Miura, a graduating senior, to be a perpetual trophy awarded each year, and to have on it engraved the names of the modest pair who are deemed worthy of the honor.

Carl Paxman, outstanding student, and the boy who was responsible for the revival of interest in baseball at Torrance high, was the young man who was chosen, and Miss Wilma Whitney the girl. To these two goes the honor of being the first to receive the recognition of their classmates and faculty. In offering the cup for this purpose, Miura stated that it was his desire to in this way show his appreciation for what the school had done for him as a student, and at the same time to provide a means whereby the unassuming boy and girl who had worked hard during their four years of high school, without public recognition of their services, might have a lasting tribute paid to them at the conclusion of their career.

Ephebian honors this year were awarded to Miss Jayne Trailer, Miss Ruth Granger and Harold Watson.