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Only Newspaper Published In Torrance

# Torrance Herald

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PER COPY 5c

## NEW SITES ARE ASKED

### AREA WIDENED FOR LOCATION OF BUILDINGS

Civic Center Idea Should Be Reviewed By Committee of 40, Says Mayor

Additional offers of building sites for the new municipal auditorium and public library were requested by the Torrance city council Tuesday evening. Under the new call for bids which will be opened on Friday, November 8, at 4:30 p. m., owners of property located anywhere in the city may file proposals.

The suggestion that the area previously designated as suitable for building sites be widened was made by Mayor Scott R. Ludlow, apparently with the idea of securing less expensive land than is available within the district recommended as a civic center by the "Committee of 40," representing local organizations, industrial plants and employes.

Mayor Ludlow proposed that when all the sites and prices were obtained that they be turned over to the "Committee of 40" for a review of the situation. "If after they see how much more we will have to pay for sites within the restricted civic center area, they still want the buildings located within this area, it will be satisfactory to me," Mayor Ludlow stated.

Another added expense which had not been anticipated was revealed at Tuesday evening's meeting when it was learned from the architect that the cost of seats for the auditorium had not been included in the original estimate. However, some savings are anticipated due to the lowered prices of materials, P. A. Eisen of the firm of Walker & Eisen, architects, said.

### Ghosts May Walk But Watch Step Says Calder

Tonight is Halloween, when the ghosts walk and mysterious happenings puzzle and fret the householders. Ghosts may walk, says Chief of Police G. M. Calder, but they must confine their antics to harmless manifestations, or the great bugaboo of all nocturnal spirits, the Torrance police, will get them. Extra officers will be on duty to see that the Halloween spirit is limited to good clean fun with no harm done.

### DR. LANCASTER returns from trip TO NEBRASKA

Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Lancaster returned last evening from a two weeks' motor trip to York, Nebraska, where they visited Dr. Lancaster's mother. Conditions among the farmers and residents of middle western towns are much improved, Dr. Lancaster states. The return trip was made by way of Arkansas and Texas.

### Contractor Asks To Withdraw On Paving Job

Error In Calculations Alleged In Proposal For Lomita Blvd.

Delay in construction of the Lomita Blvd. project at Narbonne avenue loomed this week when the successful low bidder, Kovacevich and Price, told the board of supervisors they had made an error in figuring their bid, and asked permission to withdraw it.

The supervisors, on motion of Supervisor John R. Quinn, referred the matter to the county counsel and the road department, and asked Kovacevich to bring in his figure sheets and show the county how the error had come about.

Kovacevich, appearing before the supervisors Monday, stated that he had understood that the county would do the finish grading, but had since learned that this was not the case. Cost of this work, about \$450, would represent the greater part of his profit on the job, the contractor stated. His low bid was \$4,271.

Supervisor John R. Quinn left Monday night for Los Angeles and could not follow the matter through, but if the other board members should permit the bid to be withdrawn, there would be a delay and a possibility that the second low bidder might not accept the contract. The conference between the attorney and the contractor was to be held sometime this week.

The board of supervisors this week appropriated \$30,000 to cover the cost of the private contract and the work being performed by the county road department in doing the rough grading and miscellaneous work.

### BOB DILLON held for probation OFFICER

Robert Dillon, 334 1/2 Sartori avenue, who has been on probation for some time, on charges of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, was taken into custody this week and turned over to the probation officer, who took him to Long Beach where he will undergo an examination. Dillon was picked up on complaints of officials at the plant where he has been employed. He is said to have created somewhat of a disturbance there and quit his job. He is said to have been despondent since the departure of his wife and had threatened to take his own life.

Dillon was placed on probation some time ago following an automobile accident in which a young girl of Wilmington was killed. Dillon and another man were charged with having procured liquor for the party of four young people, prior to the accident which brought about the charges preferred against the two local men.

### Watchman At Local Plant Dies Sunday

James McGuire, age 70, an employe of the International Derrick and Equipment Company, passed away at the General hospital on Sunday, October 27. Rosary was said at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday evening and funeral services were held at the Church of the Nativity on Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock. McGuire, a watchman for the derrick company, resided at 1311 Arlington avenue.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Jane McGuire, two sons, William, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Laurence, of Los Angeles; and two daughters, Theresa and Rose McGuire.

### Ray Brooks Is New Ad-Man At Herald

Appointment of Ray W. Brooks as advertising manager of the Torrance Herald & Lomita News is announced by Grover C. Whyte, publisher. For the past three years Mr. Brooks has been associated with the Broadway Department Store in Los Angeles, where his duties consisted of writing newspaper advertising, buying and management of the men's wear department.

Mr. Brooks' training and experience will enable him to give valuable assistance and co-operation to Herald advertisers not only in preparing advertisements but in promoting merchandising events.

Coming to Long Beach with his family nearly 15 years ago, the newly appointed manager of the Herald received his high school training at Long Beach Polytechnic high school, graduating from there in 1925. Entering the school of journalism at the University of Southern California the next year, Mr. Brooks was actively engaged in campus publications and in his senior year his outstanding ability was recognized by his appointment as business manager of the Daily Trojan.

In 1930, upon graduation from U. S. C., Mr. Brooks went to New York City where he spent two years at Macy's and Gimbel's department stores. There, under expert guidance, he learned the fundamentals of successful advertising and merchandising. Returning to Los Angeles in 1932, Mr. Brooks was immediately employed by the Broadway Department Store where he remained until last week when he resigned to accept the position with the Torrance Herald. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks are residing at 2311 Sonoma avenue, Torrance.

### TOY COLLECTION at theatre matinee EXCEEDS 1,000

More than 1,000 toys were received at the Torrance Theatre recently as the price of admission to a children's morning matinee, held under the auspices of the Torrance co-ordinating council and city firemen, through the courtesy of Manager DeWitt B. Van Derlip. The toys have been sent to the repair shop where they are being put in good order and will be returned here shortly to be placed in a toy loan library for the use of Torrance children.

The loan library will be maintained at the Recreation Center building, 1335 Post avenue. At a later date, when the WPA projects are functioning, Torrance will probably set up its own toy repair department, where the broken toys will be made useful. At the present time this work is done at the Manchester avenue headquarters in Los Angeles.

### KING BECOMES water company COUNSEL

James L. King, formerly in charge of the escrow department at the First National Bank, and for a time city police judge, who for several years has resided in San Bernardino, has resigned his post as chief deputy district attorney for San Bernardino county to accept a position as counsel for the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation district with headquarters in Redlands.

Mr. King's contract with the water company will begin on November 1, but until the end of the year he will remain with the district attorney's office on a part-time basis, his resignation taking effect January 1. The attorney will also enter private practice, says the San Bernardino Daily Sun, in which he will be associated with his brother, Harold King.

### LARGE GROUP taken on tour of STEEL PLANT

Eight important manufacturing firms of the metropolitan district were represented in a group of 284 who visited the Columbia Steel Company plant in Torrance last Tuesday evening. The officials, heads of departments, with their key men and employes, were taken on a tour of the plant and inspected all departments.

The visit is one of many such tours made through Columbia recently, but included the largest single group which has been entertained.

All firms represented are engaged in manufacturing along lines which employ steel products in their operations. The largest group in the 284 came from the Northrop Aircraft Corporation, whose plant is located at Mines Field, and numbered 164. Others were Ducommun Corporation, 39; Hollywood Metal Products, 1; Richfield Oil Company, 25; Ward Refrigerator Company, 5; Rheem Manufacturing Company, 3; Hamilton Manufacturing Company, 3; and a group of engineering students from the University of California at Los Angeles, 15.

H. P. Lintott, assistant manager, and others of the plant personnel escorted the party and explained the workings of the concern.

At 2 a. m. Arnold H. Peterson, 5601 Maywood avenue, who was piloting a truck and trailer owned by Morgan Bros., 5919 Maywood avenue, Maywood, saw an Overland sedan ahead of him. The sedan was parked north of the highway, just north of the C. L. Closson garage. Peterson threw on his brakes in an attempt to avoid a collision.

According to his report the brakes on the truck took hold but those on the trailer did not, and the heavy machines loaded with 33 tons of oil went out of control. The tank truck crashed off to the right, mowed down two gasoline service pumps, and tore into the front of the Closson garage. Planks and heavy beams were snapped like matchwood. The office and its contents, including a valuable cash register, were completely wrecked, and the tool room back of it was demolished.

### RECOMMENDATIONS ON BIDS TO BE LAID BEFORE COUNCIL

Eleven Firms Compete For Contracts On Construction of Three Units of Local Waterworks System

Eleven bidders submitted their figures on construction of Units B, C and D, of the waterworks project to the city council Tuesday night, which bids were opened and read and referred to the city engineer and city attorney for study. Action on the bids will be deferred until a later date.

Following are the bids submitted and the time limit stated for completion of the work: Unit B, Pumping Plant Hoagland Engineering and Construction Company, \$34,970.00; 60 days. Paddock Engineering Company, \$40,000.00; 90 days.

Contracting Engineers, Inc., \$35,000.00; 90 days. Unit C, Low Storage Tank Chicago Bridge and Iron Works, \$24,315.00; 90 days. American Pipe and Steel Corporation, \$25,470.00; 90 days. Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Company, \$19,900.00; 90 days.

Consolidated Steel Corporation, \$23,990.00; 80 days. Western Pipe & Steel Company, \$23,710.00; 90 days. Unit D, Distributing System Fred W. Weber, \$41,992.00; 40 days. George E. Miller, \$42,143.00; 45 days. Marco Matick, \$45,700.00; 40 days.

Alternate bids were submitted on Unit C by four of the firms, for construction of an alternative character. Bids on Unit B, the pumping plant, also noted deductions which may be made should the city decide to omit certain features from the plans and specifications according to which the bids were estimated.

Bids on Unit D included figures on certain types of work which shall be added or deducted, according to the necessities of the job. Award of the contracts on the three units will be based upon ability to perform the work. TURN TO STORY ONE Page 2

### Starving Dogs Feast On Companion

Twenty-one dogs, starved to the point of pitiful emaciation, took their last ride to the haven of wretched animals yesterday and ended their miserable lives under the merciful ministrations of the keeper of the Humane Society's animal shelter in Hermost Beach. Twenty-one started the ride from their home in the McDonald Tract, but only 20 arrived at their destination. The other unfortunate had been eaten. Only its skull, too hard and bony even for the sharp teeth of its famished companions to crack, remained to tell of the cannibalistic feast enjoyed on the way.

The dogs, and one cat, had been kept at the home of a woman who gave her name as Mrs. Irene Martin, who resided in the tract alone with her 7-year-old son. According to Mrs. Martin, the dogs were valuable animals, but Torrance city police who were called to the dwelling disagreed with her estimate of their worth, especially in view of the condition to which the animals had been reduced for lack of sufficient food.

According to county health officials who had investigated the case, Mrs. Martin came to this state a short time ago from Phoenix, Arizona. She is reputed to have been at one time well to do, but apparently has been reduced to very straitened circumstances. She is said to have friends in Los Angeles, who have been notified of her plight and will probably arrange to relieve the situation of the woman and her young son.

### Roosevelt Club Rally On Wednesday

All voters in Torrance and vicinity are invited to attend the meeting of the "On With Roosevelt" club, which will be held Wednesday evening, November 6, in the justice court room, 1626 Cravens avenue, starting at 7:30 o'clock.

Congressman Charles J. Colden, member from the 17th district, will speak on the legislation of the last session of Congress and matters of general interest to the voters.

Colonel J. F. Sears, F.E.R.A. director for the 11 western states, will speak on work projects and affairs under his jurisdiction, which will be of interest and importance to all, especially those who hope to find employment on some of the government projects in this section.

Judge Robert F. Lessing, chairman, will preside at the meeting which is open to all men and women, regardless of political affiliations.

### Revolver Club Meets On Tuesday

The regular meeting of the Revolver and Rifle Association will be held next Tuesday evening, November 6, at the city hall. All members are urged to be present, says President John Stroh. Important business to be transacted.

## REQUEST BIDS FOR ERECTING NEW BUILDINGS

### SPECTACULAR CRASH WRECKS GARAGE BLDG.

Two Men Miraculously Escape Death As Heavy Tank and Trailer Leave Road

An early morning crash on South Main street near 190th, which wrecked a garage and damaged an Overland sedan and a tank truck and trailer provided the most spectacular scene ever witnessed in these parts Sunday morning. Thousands of motorists, who passed by the place, blocked traffic for several hours while the highway patrol endeavored to keep the lines moving.

At 2 a. m. Arnold H. Peterson, 5601 Maywood avenue, who was piloting a truck and trailer owned by Morgan Bros., 5919 Maywood avenue, Maywood, saw an Overland sedan ahead of him. The sedan was parked north of the highway, just north of the C. L. Closson garage. Peterson threw on his brakes in an attempt to avoid a collision.

According to his report the brakes on the truck took hold but those on the trailer did not, and the heavy machines loaded with 33 tons of oil went out of control. The tank truck crashed off to the right, mowed down two gasoline service pumps, and tore into the front of the Closson garage. Planks and heavy beams were snapped like matchwood. The office and its contents, including a valuable cash register, were completely wrecked, and the tool room back of it was demolished.

The tanker swung completely around and came to rest headed north, while the trailer tank, still coupled on to it, headed southwest. The tanker stopped inches from a new Ford V-8, three of which had been stored in the garage.

A small fire started under the trailer, which Peterson extinguished with dirt and water from a wrecked water pipe. Gilbert F. Patterson, Los Angeles, who had been asleep in the Overland, climbed out uninjured from the wrecked sedan the side of which had been torn off when it was sideswiped by the tank. The sedan was carried along by the onrush of the heavy machines and stopped at the door of the garage. It is registered to Jane Arnold, 10019 South Towne street, Los Angeles.

C. L. Closson, owner of the garage, estimated his damages at about \$1,200, including the replacement of the two service pumps. Mr. Closson is also the proprietor of the Closson Funeral Home at 932 West 164th street, Gardena.

How the driver of the truck escaped death or serious injury is a mystery, since he was carried right through the front wall of the garage and his cab scraped the beams supporting the roof. He was unhurt. For some time, according to Mr. Closson, one of his workers at the garage has been sleeping in the office, but recently had changed his quarters to a house next door.

### HAND IS INJURED

Ed Tappin, 25434 Narbonne avenue, was treated for a deep cut on the palm of the left hand at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital last Monday, following an accident at the National Supply Company where he is employed.

### Torrance Party Spends Evening At Phone Office

Members and Guests of Local Club Learn Workings of Huge Enterprise

Members and guests of the National Business and Professional Women of Torrance, who visited the offices of the Southern California Telephone Company, at 438 South Olive street, Los Angeles, Monday night, spent one of the most enjoyable and instructive evenings in many months. The party of 23 included Mrs. Orda Peitzke, manager of the local office; her daughter, Miss Doris Peitzke; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Billini, Mr. and Mrs. Roland Sanderhoff, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Montague, Mr. and Mrs. Botkin, of Hermost Beach; Mrs. Mary Vonderahe, Mrs. Lola Hoover, Mrs. Ruth Haggard, Mrs. A. H. Bartlett and daughter, Miss Polly Janet Bartlett; Miss Edna Mullin, Miss Katherine Mullin, Miss Bea Hughes, Miss Bea Christensen, Miss Caroline Stroh, Miss Lute Fraser and Donald Shafersal.

They were taken through the entire building from the eighth floor, where all outgoing long distance calls are put through, to the basement where they inspected the teletype equipment, and the tour of the building showed them all the workings of this great public utility, which handles thousands of telephone calls daily. The radio room, through which all broadcasts are routed into and out of the studios; the mechanical equipment, the apparatus used in making connections on dialed calls, and many other unexpected features which are vital to the business, were seen and explained by trained guides, who courteously received and directed the guests.

The time signal room was of especial interest. In a little sound-proof room, glassed in on one side to permit inspection, sits a girl who does nothing but announce at 15-second intervals the correct time. She is surrounded by electrical clocks and sits before a little switchboard on which a green light flashes each 15 seconds to warn her to begin repeating the familiar phrase, "At the sound of the gong it will be exactly eight minutes and 15 seconds past 9 o'clock," or whatever the time may be. Twenty-four girls work on this assignment, one girl on duty each hour. Longer shifts would be impossible because of the monotony of the job.

Hundreds of operators are employed in this one building alone, with hundreds more at the various branches. The telephone company looks after the welfare of the employes in careful fashion, even to the extent of providing taxis to take home those operators whose shifts are ended during the late hours of the night, or early morning.

According to the guides, the office is open to visitors at any time, but in case of large parties who wish to inspect the place, arrangements are requested in advance in order to provide for guides, or hostesses as they are called, who will accompany the visitors and explain the workings of the business.

The Torrance club is indebted to Mrs. Peitzke and Dean Smith, public relations man for the company, for the privilege of making the inspection. Before leaving for Los Angeles the party inspected the local exchange and were served coffee and home-made cake through the courtesy of Mrs. Peitzke.

### APPROVAL OF PWA GRANT IS EXPECTED FRI.

Word Received From Washington Representatives Favorable

The question as to whether or not the City of Torrance will receive a \$52,500 grant from the Public Works Administration, necessary to construct the new city hall, library, and municipal auditorium, is scheduled to be decided by Washington officials tomorrow, according to word received from Deputy County Counsel William B. McKesson yesterday.

A. D. Wilder, California state engineer for the PWA is due to arrive in Washington Friday morning, and the question of transferring over a million dollars of PWA money previously set aside for the county of Los Angeles, and re-allocating it to the cities of Torrance, El Monte and a number of school districts located throughout the county will be presented to the executive board of the Public Works Administration in Washington when it meets tomorrow. Favorable action is anticipated, according to word received at the county counsel's office in Los Angeles.

Deputy County Counsel McKesson and James L. Beebe, bond expert, have been in Washington since last Friday endeavoring to secure favorable action on the applications of Los Angeles county municipalities and school districts. McKesson expects to leave Washington today, but Beebe will remain until after the meeting of the PWA board tomorrow, it was learned.

Further indications that favorable action on the Torrance application is expected was evidenced early this week when Mayor Scott R. Ludlow received a telegram from Mr. Beebe recommending that the city council proceed immediately to advertise for bids for the sale of the \$85,000 municipal bonds recently voted to defray the city's share of the projects.

### Ask For Bids

Acting on the recommendation of Attorney Beebe, who is also engaged as special counsel on bond matters by the City of Torrance, the city council met Tuesday evening and formally requested construction bids for the new city hall, garage and jail; public library, and municipal auditorium. Bids will be opened at 8 p. m. on November 12, according to the advertisement printed elsewhere in this issue. Bids from bonding companies for the purchase of the \$85,000 municipal bonds will be opened at the same time.

### Local Labor

When asked regarding the question of using local labor in the construction of the buildings, P. A. Eisen of the firm of Walker & Eisen, architects, stated that under the rules of the PWA it was mandatory for contractors to draw from the closest available supply of labor.

### GALLERIES OPEN

The Huntington library and art gallery at San Marino will reopen November 1. Admission is by card, and the library is open each week day afternoon except Monday and on the first and third Sunday in the month.