

Coast Highway Cut-off Approved

Satisfactory bids were obtained on three important state highway construction jobs last Thursday afternoon and contracts will be awarded at Sacramento within the next few days, it was announced today.

The projects are Rosemead boulevard, east of San Gabriel, Ventura boulevard, west of Calabasas, and the Coast highway

at San Pedro. C. R. Butterfield of San Pedro submitted the low bid of \$156,951 for construction of the cut-off that will connect the coast highway and 25th street. The cut-off will be two miles long and pass along the northern edge of the Royal Palms golf course. The county is furnishing the right of way, and the cut-off will enable traffic around Portuguese Bend to proceed into San Pedro much more directly than at present.

New Address System Now Open to Use

A completely equipped public address system owned and operated by Wesley Rose, artist and metal craftsman of 1913 Cabrillo, is now available for rent to merchants in Torrance.

Instruments for use on stationary jobs and machines designed for use on moving trucks are included in the equipment, which is probably the only thing of its kind available in the city.

In conjunction with the address system Rose is also able to provide all the necessary equipment for making sound recordings.

The efficiency with which the address system can be used was demonstrated to the people of Torrance at the time of the Star Department Store opening. It was Rose's announcing system which was used, and at the dedication of the new civic buildings he made complete recordings of the entire event, which he plans to give to the city.

Ford Wants to Put Tax Money Back In Local Funds

Activity in connection with his campaign for election at the primaries August 25, were shoved into the background yesterday by Supervisor Leland M. Ford, who jumped into the fight for the allocation of a larger slice of county funds to carry out an important and needed program of development in the Fourth District, it was revealed by his campaign manager, H. Kirby Shellaby.

The supervisor believes that his district has not had its full share of funds in the past. "It is important that our inland and mountain districts be protected by a full county program of flood control. But how about our beaches and tributary areas where water can get just as deep and cause as much damage? We must protect the western side of our big county, and our voice must be heard by those who can help us," Ford stated at a recent meeting of civic leaders from all sections of the district.

His unique plan of decentralization of expenditures also was outlined by the supervisor who is working to put back money into the district it is taken out of by a practical plan of placing county business with local firms in the district nearest the development.

"We are continually taking taxes—taking money out of the community to run government," Ford explained. "I want to see us put some of it right back in circulation where it came from. Let's do business with the merchant who does business with government."

Land Over-Grazed
OGDEN, Utah. (U.P.)—The Utah livestock industry is rapidly eating itself into extinction thru over-grazing, S. R. DeBoart, state planning board consultant, declared recently.

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times as much as the average employe in Belgian steel mills.

"Between 1929 and 1933 dividends to steel stockholders were reduced more than 94 percent—from \$189,000,000 to \$11,000,000. In 1935, when total iron and steel payrolls exceeded \$550,000,000, stockholders received less than \$39,000,000, equivalent to only seven cents for each dollar in payrolls.

"The prices received from the sale of iron and steel have likewise failed to keep pace with the industry's wages. Prevailing steel prices in July 1936 average \$3.00 per ton less than in 1929, and even in 1929, steel prices were almost \$3.70 per ton below the average price in the preceding six years.

"Out of every dollar received from the sale of steel products, 41 cents goes into payrolls, while dividends account for only one and one-half cents. The remainder goes for raw materials and other expenses.

"In the years from 1931 thru 1934 the industry, as a whole, went into the red to the extent of \$285,000,000. In that period total payrolls amounted to more than \$1,500,000,000.

"Department of labor figures on average weekly wages and average hourly earnings of steel employees are compared in the following table with the department's averages for major industries. All figures are for March 1936.

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings	Average Hourly Earnings
Steel Industry	\$26.38	66.2c
Machinery	24.90	60.9c
Non-ferrous metals	22.17	55.0c
Transportation equipment	27.42	74.6c
Railroad repair shops	29.64	68.3c
Lumber and allied products	18.61	45.3c
Stone, clay and glass products	20.96	53.8c
Textiles and their products	16.68	46.3c
Leather and its manufactures	18.36	51.5c
Food and kindred products	22.19	54.4c
Tobacco manufacture	14.34	41.4c
Paper and printing	26.02	69.2c
Rubber products	23.97	64.4c
Chemicals and allied products, and petroleum refining	23.75	60.7c
Average, all manufacturing	22.25	57.2c

"Anthracite coal miners earned an average of \$23.38 per week in March, according to department of labor figures, while miners of bituminous coal earned an average of \$22.19 per week."

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Brighten Your Corner

"Brighten the Corner Where You Are," runs the song in the Sunday school hymn books. And it's a suggestion that has been taken to heart by a number of owners of downtown buildings. Latest to join the improvement parade is the Pacific Electric Railway which this week is giving its depot a new coat of paint. Albert Isen is also remodeling the old Colonial Hotel building at Cabrillo and Gramercy.

The beautiful new civic structures and new or modernized store buildings in the business section emphasize the need for dressing up other dingy or out-moded buildings.

For instance, it would be appreciated if Realty Rufus Page would give his red brick building on Post avenue a coat of stucco to harmonize with the new library building. It looks most incongruous, and will be even more out of harmony when the Torrance Mutual Building & Loan Association completes the modernization of its new home on the other side of the Page building. How about it, Rufus? Can't you use a little of that money the city paid you for the library site to make things look better for us? That red building of yours jutting out between the two new buildings looks like you're sticking your tongue out at us, and we know you don't mean to do anything like that.

New Born Babe Has Tooth, Maybe

Girl babies are more precocious than boy babies, they say, so it is not surprising that the baby born this week at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital with something that looks like a tooth in its mouth is a girl. The baby is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. K. Hinricks, of North Hollywood. Nurses at the hospital refused to commit themselves on the subject, but say that the little white object in the baby's mouth could be a tooth. Baby Hinricks declined to be interviewed.

Mrs. Rous' Mother Falls, Breaks Hip

Vacation plans of the Irvin C. Rous family were sadly interrupted when they arrived at Lubbock, Texas. The day before the Torrance party arrived, Mrs. Rous' mother had fallen and fractured her hip. Mr. Rous and daughters, Betty Jane and Marcia, immediately returned to Torrance arriving late last evening, and Mrs. Rous remained in Texas to care for her mother, who is nearly 80 years old.

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Mayor Red-Faced
ILION, N. Y. (U.P.)—Mayor Frank C. Whitney was red-faced when his car, leading the county firemen's parade ran out of gasoline. The mayor and three officials riding with him were forced to enter a second car already loaded.

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